

MINUTES

of the

PUBLIC HEARING HELD ON

APRIL 18, 2017

THE COUNCIL OF THE COUNTY OF MAUI, STATE OF HAWAII, CONVENED A PUBLIC HEARING ON TUESDAY, APRIL 18, 2017 AT 6:02 P.M., IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, KALANA O MAUI BUILDING, WAILUKU, HAWAII, WITH CHAIR MICHAEL B. WHITE PRESIDING, FOR THE PURPOSE OF RECEIVING TESTIMONY ON A PROPOSED OPERATING BUDGET AND CAPITAL PROGRAM FOR THE FISCAL YEAR JULY 1, 2017 TO JUNE 30, 2018.

CHAIR WHITE: This public hearing of the Maui County Council will please come to order.

Mr. Clerk, please call the roll.

ROLL CALL

PRESENT: COUNCILMEMBERS ALIKA ATAY, YUKI LEI SUGIMURA, DON S. GUZMAN, KELLY T. KING, S. STACY CRIVELLO, VICE-CHAIR ROBERT CARROLL, AND CHAIR MICHAEL B. WHITE.

EXCUSED: COUNCILMEMBERS ELEANORA COCHRAN, AND G. RIKI HOKAMA.

DEPUTY COUNTY CLERK JOSIAH K. NISHITA: Mr. Chair, there are seven Members present and two Members excused, a quorum is present to conduct the business of the Council.

CHAIR WHITE: Thank you, Mr. Clerk.

And I would just like you all to remember to please turn your phones to vibrate so that we won't be disturbed during testimony.

As you can see, we have a packed house this evening and by Council Rules, we have the ability to reduce the amount of time allotted to each testifier to one minute or

two minutes, but we're going to keep it at three minutes this evening. But I just ask that when people are up here testifying, that we provide each person a respectful opportunity to share their mana'o with us. And so I ask that everyone else in the chambers remain quiet and if you feel as though you need to have a little bit of an outburst, we may ask you to leave the chamber. We want to keep this a respectful proceeding and when its packed like this, it can get a little bit rowdy from time to time but I think we've got enough kids here that, you guys will keep us in order, right?

Okay, um, so we are going to ask that those of you, the Clerk will call up the next testifier and the one following the testifier, and if you are on this side of the room when he calls your name, please move to this side where you will be providing testimony.

We want to keep this moving at a reasonable clip because with three minutes, with a, we currently have about 75 people signed up for testimony, so we will be here at least until ten o'clock, maybe a little later and that's not including breaks. So if you need the, the reason we're leaving it at three minutes is that if you have three minutes and you need that full amount of time, please feel free to use it. If you don't need three minutes, if you can say what you need to say in three or four sentences, please do so, so that those who have more to say will have adequate time.

So, we're trying to be very fair, but we also want to be respectful of the ability for people to get back to their families, get the kids back, since this is a school night, so I'm sure you guys want to get some homework done and get some sleep.

So with that, Mr. Clerk.

DEPUTY COUNTY CLERK: Mr. Chair, the Notice of Public Hearing on the Mayor's Proposed Budget and Capital Program was published in the April 4, 2017 and April 11, 2017 editions of the Maui News.

In accordance with Section 9-4, of the Revised Charter of the County of Maui, the public is invited to provide testimony before the Council regarding the Mayor's Proposed Budget for the Fiscal Year ending June 30, 2018 and Proposed Capital Program.

We've established limited interactive communication that enables individuals from Hana, Lanai, and Molokai to provide testimony from our District Offices. Individuals who wish to offer testimony from Hana, Lanai, and Molokai should now sign up with District Office staff.

Individuals who wish to offer testimony in the Chamber please sign up at the desk located in the 8th Floor Lobby just outside the Chamber door.

When testifying, please state your name and the name of any organization you represent.

Currently, we have no testifiers at our District Offices and we have approximately 75 individuals who have signed up to testify in the Council Chamber.

The first person to testify in the Council Chamber is Lisa Judge, she will be followed by Russell Sparks.

CHAIR WHITE: Okay, let me just explain the rules, I might not have been as clear as I should have been. There will be no clapping, before or after anyone's testimony, because we want everyone to be comfortable, that they can share what they feel without any sense of ridicule, without any sense of being demeaned.

So, I ask that you not say anything following somebody's testimony. There's no calls, and if you don't like something that someone's saying, tough luck. We're here to hear everyone's thoughts and make them feel as comfortable as we can while they're at the podium. So no clapping, no call outs, okay.

Thank you very much. Ms. Judge, please proceed.

TESTIMONY

MS. LISA JUDGE:

Thank you, Chair. Good evening, Chair White and Maui Councilmembers. My name is Lisa Judge and I am here testifying as an individual. I am an avid golfer, as well as a mother of a junior golfer and as he has participated, my son has participated in many junior golf seasons, and also as a Seabury Hall golfer. I've spent many hours at Waiehu, walking the course and enjoying every minute of it.

As you all know, I don't need to tell you how beautiful that course is, people refer to it as the Pebble Beach of Maui. You can all look around and count how many other golf courses on Maui have three ocean front holes, and I think you all know that there aren't any. So it is a treasure that we need to save.

Um, I think, it just needs to, you know, it just needs a little common sense, of what I've heard from people who are visiting the island, they can't reserve on-line, they can't pay with credit cards, just things like that. I mean, if you could just bring the reservation system into the 21st Century, I think you could create a lot more income to make it feasible and make it, make improvements where more and more people will want to play. And also all of the County members can enjoy that as well, and I don't think anybody has to suffer.

I think you could still maintain the senior rates, you could maintain the kama'aina rates, and the student rates as long as you would broaden it to a bigger community. I think a lot of our visitors would love to play Waiehu but they're prohibited by the reservation system that we have, the short time span, the, you can't pay with credit cards. So I think it's just a simple matter of common sense that we could expand the revenue base and save the golf course.

And so I just really would ask you to look at that and help us save Waiehu.

CHAIR WHITE: Thank you very much, Ms. Judge.

Mr. Clerk.

DEPUTY COUNTY CLERK: The next person to testify is Russell Sparks, he will be followed by Bill Greenleaf.

MR. RUSSELL SPARKS:

Good evening, Mr. Chair, Members of the Council. Um, I grew up on Maui and I learned to play at Waiehu. When I was thirteen years old, I was taking lessons from Mr. Yogi and spent many, many hours on the course, was just a few years ago, in case you were curious.

But, um, actually now I'm a parent, I have two kids playing junior golf, plays high school golf, um and the course is where they learn, that's where they practice. When they're lucky enough to be part of a junior golf organization they get to play some of the other courses. But when they're practicing, they can't afford that, so the course is critical for that.

Also for seniors and other residents, it's an opportunity to get out and enjoy the game. It's really an expensive game, as a parent, I can tell you that. You know, the clubs, the drivers everything adds up, so if you start, if you get rid of Waiehu Golf

Course and we have to start paying to play on those other courses, it's just not going to happen. Kids are not going to get better and they are not going to really enjoy, learn to enjoy this game.

The game of golf teaches you a lot of important life lessons; honor, honesty, patience. There's no game out there more frustrating than golf, so if you can learn to play golf and get through it, there's nothing in life that you can't conquer. So it's very important. So I'm going to finish, cause Lisa already said most everything that needs to be said, I think. But I want to finish just by acknowledging all the juniors out here, I don't know if you guys can stand up or raise your hand, because really the juniors, this is the reason why Waiehu is most critical, for these kids to continue to play golf--

CHAIR WHITE: Yes, you can raise your hands, you just can't put them together.

MR. SPARKS: --raise your hands, guys, come on there's a whole bunch of 'em. Alright, and these kids have graciously given up homework tonight to be here, cause that's how important Waiehu Golf Course is. So, again, thank you.

CHAIR WHITE: Thank you very much, Mr. Sparks.

Mr. Clerk.

DEPUTY COUNTY CLERK: The next person to testify is Bill Greenleaf, he will be followed by Phyllis Robinson.

MR. BILL GREENLEAF:

Chair White, good evening. Councilmembers. Um, I, I've been a golf pro, PGA member for 45 years, and before that I got a degree in Accounting at Arizona State University. So I understand golf and I understand numbers and I like what the first two people said tonight about the golf course. It's a gem.

If you saw the kids playing matches, I don't know if any of the Councilmembers have ever seen the kids playing matches. But they call the rules on themselves, they don't need officials out there, honesty is the watch word. At the end of the round, they meet each other on the final hole, they take off their hats, they shake hands, it's one of the healthiest endeavors that you can have for young people.

And Maui's really setting, making quite a name for itself, by the young people and how they're representing, winning wonderful college scholarships.

I think that in the 17 years that I've been here, more than twenty kids have won scholarships. So we could add that money up and it's probably close to a hundred thousand dollars per child, so that's quite a representation. And as Russell said, it's so expensive to play, to have a facility like Waiehu available makes it possible, makes all this possible.

Now I want to talk about the numbers a little bit. The numbers are cuckoo. Four million dollars, that would go pretty well at Augusta, so I don't know how the Council is going to investigate this, but the numbers are really way off, as far as, what needs to be spent.

Lisa touched a little bit on the common sense about the way these golf courses are run. There is a wonderful PGA professional at Waiehu, I would recommend that he become the concessionaire so to speak, and really have more of an autonomous, where he can make recommendations and have a budget.

I checked with PGA professionals around the country, they recommend that the golf course be a line item budget and not under something else, so that it can be run more efficiently, so that it can broaden its base, broaden its income while still serving the community.

Mr. Yogi who was there, before Art said that they use to have a board meeting that happened pretty regularly and discussed things like, what we're talking about tonight and taking up valuable Council time. By the way, thank you to all the Councilmembers . . . at the end of budget, I know it's been an enormous stress on you all, so thank you so much for everything you do and it's really appreciated.

So, thank you and I hope you can figure out some way to get to the bottom of the numbers and create a structure going forward that let's this facility really shine.

Thank you.

CHAIR WHITE: Thank you, Mr. Greenleaf.

Mr. Clerk.

DEPUTY COUNTY CLERK: The next person to testify is Phyllis Robinson, she will be followed by Vicki Shortell.

MS. PHYLLIS ROBINSON:

Good evening, Chairman White and County Councilmembers. Thank you so much for all that you do in behalf of our public in considering this budget.

I have a handout that you should have in front of you. It is a description of our program on the second page. The first page is of our budget. And I wanted to point out that I'm speaking on behalf of the Farm Apprentice Mentoring Program, my name is Phyllis Robinson.

And our Farm Apprentice Mentoring Program under the Hawaii Farmers Union United is a program that is growing farmers across Maui. And we made a decision recently and that's part of why I'm here tonight, that we really need to expand this program to Molokai and Hana. And we've had so much positive response about that from those two communities that we feel that we need to ask the Council if they would consider helping fund that. And it goes above and beyond what the Mayor's budget has and I'm happy to speak with any of you, either right now or over the next few days, if any of you have any questions about our additional ask.

But, um, if you look at the budget that we presented, we are asking for an additional amount of money. I don't need to get into the numbers but it is because our FAM Apprentice Program is so successful so far, and you'll hear tonight from a number of our apprentices. And they will give testimony to how successful we are so far. And I want to thank the County, because you've supported us over these last three years to become the program we are now. And so we're delighted to move forward and we're also delighted that we can move from a pilot program to a program that we can expand.

So I'm going to stop there. Are there any questions about what's in front of you or would you like to speak to me later. My phone number and my email address are on the bottom of your second page.

CHAIR WHITE: Ms. Robinson, with the number of testifiers we have this evening, the Chair would prefer that we not entertain questions. And I know most of us know how to get a hold of you and I'm sure that they'll be happy to.

MS. ROBINSON: Wonderful. Thank you, Chairman White and thank you, Councilmembers.

CHAIR WHITE: Thank you. Thank you for being here.

Mr. Clerk.

DEPUTY COUNTY CLERK: The next person to testify is Vicki Shortell, she will be followed by Ralph Miyamoto.

MS. VICKI SHORTELL:

Council, Chair White. My name is Vicki Shortell and I am a member of the Farm Apprenticeship Mentoring, the second cohort that started in December. And I became aware of this program through my late employer. I worked for HC&S for 28 years and as, we knew that our time was coming to an end, we had job fairs and some people from Workforce Development, as well as the college knew that I was interested in farming and helped lead me to the program.

Um, this Apprenticeship Mentoring Program has given me access to amazing mentors in the organic sustainable farming community and they have inspired me to pursue my farm dream.

I've implemented many of the practices that I've witnessed at going out to these different farm locations. I'm creating my own soil now and natural soil amendments. I currently have three and half acres in Haiku that I've been on for 30 years as a weekend farmer, but when you work full-time it's hard to put all the energy into it. So now I have the time, and you know the assistance from all these people that have done it successfully, giving me all their tips, and I'm seeing great things happening.

Right now I'm creating and perfecting items for the value added market, producing items from things grown on my property; jellies, teas, hot sauces, and dried bananas and several other things. And I don't think I would have had the courage to take on my own little farm business without the support of the people at the Farmer's Union. I want to thank them for making this opportunity available to small farmers like myself and I really like that they're growing farmers here on Maui.

Thank you.

CHAIR WHITE: Mr. Clerk.

DEPUTY COUNTY CLERK: The next person to testify is Ralph Miyamoto, he will be followed by Harry Johnson.

MR. RALPH MIYAMOTO:

Good evening, Chair White and voting Members of the Council. I'm here representing myself, as well as the community and junior golfers. I belong to numerous organizations, we start from Maui Junior Golf, I've been on the Board for close to 15 years, as a Board of Directors and as Past President. I have also been with Hawaii State Junior Golf Association as a Director, which is the largest junior golf association in the State of Hawaii. I also belong to the Hawaii Youth Golf Association, which is the second largest youth organization in the State of Hawaii, and also the First Tee of Hawaii, which I'm the Program Director for Maui. I also sit on the USGA Regional Board and also recently a Board Member of Hawaii State Golf Association which is the stewards of amateur golf, the GHIN Association and also the Course Rating for the State of Hawaii.

So, with all these entities I, you know, use my, my resources to make sure that our youth on Maui had a, you know, had a place where they could learn and nurture the game of golf. And like, some of the other people that had spoke here earlier, you know, spoke about golf being a unique sport. It is, it offers our youth so much value, life lessons that many of the sports don't.

And just for example, the First Tee nationwide, we have, we enforce nine, you know, nine core values and five healthy habits, you know. And in golf, in general, the things that you learn, the life lessons that you learn which is, whether its responsibility or integrity or perseverance or sportsmanship, it will carry on to your adult life. And it's so important that these fundamentals of values get carried over to our children.

And you know, today, I spoke with my daughter which is a, she's been a junior golfer and then, she plays Division I golf, you know, for Eastern Washington and she's heading off to her Conference Championship tomorrow. But she was very disappointed in hearing that this golf course was proposed to be closed. When she started golf, Art Rego was her first teacher and you know, she and she ended up developing into a great young lady and now plays Division I golf. And she's, you know, she majoring in education and one day she wants to come back to this great community and give back to the community, not only the golf but as a teacher.

And when you take away these resources from our children, our youth and also from our community, you take away all these opportunities that our youth, you know, could use throughout their lives. So I ask you, Chairman--

CHAIR WHITE: One more sentence.

MR. MIYAMOTO: --and County Councilmembers, you know, we all elected you to serve our community and do right for our people in our community, so please find a way to save our course.

Thank you very much.

CHAIR WHITE: Thank you, Mr. Miyamoto.

Mr. Clerk.

DEPUTY COUNTY CLERK: The next person is Harry Johnson. Mr. Johnson will be followed by Chevy Wong.

CHAIR WHITE: And before you start, the other rule is when the light turns red, you need to stop your testimony. We want to make it through everybody this evening.

Please proceed.

MR. HARRY JOHNSON:

Thank you. Good evening, Council, Chairman. My name is Harry Johnson and I'm the Transportation Director for Maui Economic Opportunity Inc. I'm here to testify on behalf of the transportation services that MEO provides and to thank you for your support.

MEO provides demand response and subscription transportation services to over six thousand unduplicated residents on all three islands of the County of Maui. Transportation is the life line for the people, for the people that we serve. The Human Services Transportation involves partnership with other agencies such as Maui Adult Day Care, Hale Makua, Hale Mahaolu, Easter Seals, Ka Lima O Maui, and Boys and Girls Club of Maui, Youth Centers and various nutrition and senior centers under the Kaunoa Program. We collaborate our efforts in a joint fashion with these agencies to benefit their clients.

Within the Human Services Program, there are many moving parts which are unseen, but are very important to the continuity of the service need. They are, there are three times, there are three times as many people to serve under the human services contract program than there is for the paratransit program. This is due to the diversity of services provided under the Human Services Program. Approximately, 90% of the Human Services Program involves subscription trips versus demand response trips.

Subscription trips are group type trips, while demand response trips are non-group type trips.

Coordinating subscription trips or a group of persons going from one area to another designated area requires careful planning. There is a significant amount of planning and oversight to ensure everyone's needs are being met.

On April 4, 2017, the Human Services Program celebrated its first year using the Ecolane Scheduling Software for its daily operations. While operation, while transition phases of acquiring a new tracking system bear the load of being challenging at first, we can attest that the first six months of the tracking we performed about 82% of the on time performance. For the last six months we improved to 91%. On the paratransit service, which is basically a demand response, it's typically a smaller or single group type of reservations.

On behalf of MEO and our staff, I wanted to thank you for your continued support for our programs. If you would like to understand how to address or how our services work, or how the tracking system works, you can give us a call and I'll be willing to support you on a ride or on how the system works for you, for all of our people. Thank you.

CHAIR WHITE: Thank you very much, Mr. Johnson.

Mr. Clerk.

DEPUTY COUNTY CLERK: Next person to testify is Chevy Wong, she will be followed by Braiden Paa.

MS. CHEVY WONG:

Aloha, everyone. My name is Chevy Wong and I'm here on behalf of the Upward Bound Program, in support of Maui Economic Opportunity and community based transportation.

The Upward Bound Program serves low income, first generation college students and we've had the privilege to work with MEO throughout our academic year. Unfortunately, due to limited resources in terms of their fleet, we haven't had the opportunity to utilize their transportation services for our peak seasons which is coming up this upcoming summer. So I humbly ask for your continued support and funding in support of MEO. Thank you.

CHAIR WHITE: Thank you very much for coming this evening.

Mr. Clerk.

DEPUTY COUNTY CLERK: The next person to testify is Braiden Paa, he will be followed by Jordyn Paa.

MR. BRAIDEN PAA:

Hello, Council Chair and voting Members of the Committee. My name is Braiden Paa and I am here in support of the MEO Transportation Services, as well as, for the Upward Bound Program.

As a four-year student of the Upward Bound Program, I had the opportunity to travel across the island with the help of MEO services. We've travelled to Paukukalo, Lahaina as well as, Iao Valley, to name a few locations and we've had activities in these locations that help us become more culturally aware of what's around us.

And it is my hope that you continue to support this service for many years to come. Thank you.

CHAIR WHITE: Thank you, Braiden.

Mr. Clerk.

DEPUTY COUNTY CLERK: Next person to testify is Jordyn Paa, she will be followed by Hunter Nahooikaika.

MS. JORDYN PAA:

Aloha and good evening. My name is Jordyn Paa and I am also part of the Upward Bound Program and I am here on behalf of the MEO Transportation Services.

I've been a part of the Upward Bound Program for four years and it's a college ready program for high school students like myself. And we've gone to places such as Lahaina, Kihei, and even Haleakala to work on cultural preservation. And without the transportation, I wouldn't have been able to experience navigating with Hokulea members. And that was by far one of the most memorable memories for myself in the program.

And I would like to continue this with the support of MEO Transportation Services.
So thank you for your time.

CHAIR WHITE: Thank you very much, Jordyn.

Mr. Clerk.

DEPUTY COUNTY CLERK: Next person to testify is Hunter Nahooikaika, to be followed by Tim Lara.

MS. HUNTER NAHOOIKAIKA:

Hello, my name is Hunter Nahooikaika and I'm here also in support of the MEO Transportation Services for sustaining the Upward Bound College Program I'm currently in.

In the one year I've been in the Upward Bound Program, MEO Transportation has allowed me to explore the island. And by doing that it's given me a greater appreciation and cultural understanding of where I come from. Thank you.

CHAIR WHITE: Thank you, Hunter.

DEPUTY COUNTY CLERK: The next person to testify is Tim Lara, he will be followed by Jordan Terada.

MR. TIM LARA:

Aloha, Chair White and Councilmembers. Thanks for having us today.

CHAIR WHITE: Can you move the mic up a little bit?

MR. LARA: Yeah. My name is Timothy Lara, I'm the owner of Hawaiian Paddle Sports, we do private ocean activities on Maui and I wanted to testify on the proposed increase in CORA permit fees for County parks. I'm in support of that. I think right now there's numerous companies that hold multiple permits in order to monopolize and not let smaller companies come into the marketplace. And I think that if your business motto exists simply because nobody else can enter the marketplace then that's not a good way to do business. So I think in a fair marketplace where new companies can come in, then the cream rises to the top.

So I do favor that, I think that if the prices went up for the permits, not only would it strengthen our parks, given the resource they need to take care of our parks, but it would also let new people in.

Also while I'm here, I wanted to put in a plug for the Kamalii Program at the Hawaiian Canoe Club, where I coach and paddle. It's a youth cultural program that services kids from age 8 up to 18. You get to learn about Hawaiian culture, paddle to the other islands. I actually paddled for my first time, an outrigger canoe over on Kahoolawe when I was chaperoning one of those trips. And I get to watch these kids and the light comes on in their eyes and it gives them a free program that they can do over the summer to learn about Hawaiian culture. So thank you for funding that in the past and ask that you fund that again. Thank you.

CHAIR WHITE: Thank you very much, Mr. Lara. Thank you for keeping it brief and thank you to the kids who kept it brief earlier, makes more time for others.

Mr. Clerk.

DEPUTY COUNTY CLERK: The next person to testify is Jordan Terada, followed by Chad Lee.

MR. JORDAN TERADA:

Aloha, my name is Jordan Terada and I go to Maui High School and I'll be talking about Waiehu Golf Course.

I've been golfing for nine years and over the years I've done most of my golfing at Waiehu Golf Course. It's a place in the community that brings people together from the retirees to the junior golfers and just to the locals and the tourist. And I've made friends at Waiehu Golf Course that will last a lifetime and something you can't put a price on. It's a place that I bonded with my dad and it's a place that's made me a better golfer.

And one of the things I like about Waiehu Golf Course is that its kid friendly, it really promotes a future of the game on Maui. And by having a junior rates and allowing us to walk at any time. And it's also very important to my high school golf, especially for Maui High School, I have a lot of my teammates over here. It's a place we practice and it's a place we have our team matches. And if you take Waiehu Golf Course away, you take away golf from Maui High School, make it non-existent, so therefore, please keep it open. Thank you.

CHAIR WHITE: Thank you, Jordan.

DEPUTY COUNTY CLERK: Next person to testify is Chad Lee, followed Denz Vergara.

MR. CHAD LEE:

Good evening, everyone. My name is Chad Lee, so I'm here to speak in support of Waiehu Golf Course. And myself and like everyone here, Waiehu has a special place in our hearts. Um, for me personally I have a very special connection with it. Before, even before I was born, my dad use to play this course, he used to love it. And then when he had me, he wanted somewhere, where him and I can spend time, have quality, spend quality time together. So he brought me out to Waiehu and after that we pretty much played almost every day after school. And we spent real quality time and I know there's a lot of high schoolers out here, we don't like spending time their parents, sorry parents, but I feel like that's what Waiehu does. And without Waiehu, I don't think we could have spent quality time like that cause there's no other course on the island that's as accessible and affordable.

And so many people come together and think that's what a municipal park is for. It's a place where locals come together, enjoy, and without Waiehu I can't imagine where everyone would go. And I want all those future generations to benefit from it like myself and everyone else. And I want my kids to play here, and I want my grandkids to play here, I want my grandkids kids to play here. You guys get the point. So save Waiehu.

CHAIR WHITE: Thank you, Chad.

DEPUTY COUNTY CLERK: Next testifier is Denz Vergara, followed by Lloyd Ginoza.

MR. RENZ VERGARA:

Good evening, everyone. My name is Renz Vergara, I am a senior student from Baldwin High School. I am here to testify on behalf of MEO transportation on continuing its support for the college program, Upward Bound. As mentioned earlier by Chevy, it is a program dedicated for supporting students for college readiness for families, for low income families and first generation college students. Thank you.

CHAIR WHITE: Thank you very much.

DEPUTY COUNTY CLERK: Next testifier is Lloyd Ginoza, followed by Lance Terada.

MR. LLOYD GINOZA:

Good evening, Council Chair, Councilmembers. I'm a very technical person so I'm here to testify on behalf of the Waiehu Golf Course.

The Maui County Code establishes the golf course in a separate fund so that the shortages in the fund for Waiehu is highly visible and makes it easy to accuse golfers of not paying their fair share of user fees, without recognizing that the proposed 2018 Budget for community parks, sports fields, tennis courts, pools and other activities is \$20.5 million with individuals using these facilities for free.

To be fair to the tax paying golfers, the funding of Waiehu should be evaluated as part of all the recreation activities of the County as a whole.

Supplemental funding for Waiehu is required; however, the amount of required funding is overstated. The funding in the 2017 Budget was 2.8 million for the golf course, of which 1.2 million represented administrative overhead, which is an arbitrary allocation of government overhead. Before the 2015 Budget, this charge was approximately 300,000. As a comparison, the 2017 overhead expense for Wailua Golf Course on Kauai was 130,000.

The Maui County Code provides that the proceeds shall be used for operations, maintenance, and timely improvements of the golf course. It doesn't include any overhead, so by including the overhead in the special fund appears to violate the County Code.

The 2017 Budget for the Waiehu operating expenses, excluding equipment and administrative overhead, was 2.6 million, which is reasonable compared to the 2.3 million for the Wailua Golf Course on Kauai.

The green fees for Waiehu are comparable to the fees on Kauai and Hawaii Island; however, both Kauai and Hawaii Island allows for monthly fees for resident golfers. The Council should consider monthly fees, which would create incentives for golfers to increase rounds played and increase revenues for Waiehu.

The Maui County Council authorized audits of Waiehu in 2008 and 2011. These audits were conducted by the United States Golf Association with reports dated October 2008 and January 2012. One of the conclusions of this report is that improvements in Waiehu are needed for increasing golf green fees.

CHAIR WHITE: Thank you very much.

MR. GINOZA: I have written testimony.

CHAIR WHITE: Thank you for the numbers.

DEPUTY COUNTY CLERK: Next person to testify is Lance Terada, followed by Eric Poulsen.

MR. LANCE TERADA:

Good evening, Chair, Councilmembers. My name is Lance Terada, I'm representing the Maui Junior Golf Association. I sit on the Board, I'm the Vice-President and, you know, a parent of Jordan who spoke earlier. So it was nice to hear actually my son talk about how we share time and how he enjoys it, so that's a good thing.

But anyway, you know, it goes without saying how important Waiehu Golf Course is for the Maui Junior Golf Association. It's a core need for the association to survive. I've been with it for about nine years, but I know the program has been there since 1960 I believe, you know, for a long time, so there's a lot of history going back.

So, just, not knowing all the numbers, but you know, looking out to the Councilmembers and seeing how its important to our children, you know, we want to keep the history going and the Maui Junior Golf Association, who I'm representing. Thanks.

CHAIR WHITE: Thank you very much, Mr. Terada.

DEPUTY COUNTY CLERK: Next person to testify is Eric Poulsen, to be followed by Courty Gates.

MR. ERIC POULSEN:

Aloha, good evening, Council, Chair.

CHAIR WHITE: Good evening.

MR. POULSEN: First of all, I would like to thank some of you for your exceptional hard work, your dedication. I'd also like to thank one of you for that beautiful field of

sunflowers, it's fabulous. I would say that I am stoked to see the community out like this, I've spoke before and I've seen eight people in those seats. It's good to see that everyone's here together.

I also love playing Waiehu. I have an eight-year-old son and it's highly manageable with him and it's excellent. I agree that closing that municipal course would be political suicide, so why is that on our agenda right now.

You know, years ago I helped Warren Gibson open up this place called Warren and Annabelle's Magic Night Club in Lahaina. He's a magician and the trick to a magician is redirection, making people to look over here while something else happens over here. My belief tonight is that, that is what's going on with this golf situation, that this is being used--

CHAIR WHITE: Mr. Poulsen, would you address the Chair and Members, not the gallery?

MR. POULSEN: --for this is, um, I mean, I'm friends with Mr. Carroll, so I'm kind of looking towards him if that is okay, but--

CHAIR WHITE: Just address--

MR. POULSEN: --okay. How's this? Is this okay?

CHAIR WHITE: Just address me. Thank you.

MR. POULSEN: Okay, good. So it is my belief that the budget is being muffled by this big incident of the supposed closing of our municipal golf course. I'd like to speak to Article 9, Section 9-3.1 of the Maui County Charter, which is a constitutional document, the Charter is a controlling doctrine for this meeting. And I will quote the Charter for, into the record.

The budget shall present a complete financial plan for the operations of the county and departments, showing all county funds whether encumbered or unencumbered and estimated reserve revenues. The message shall also include such supporting or explanatory material the mayor deems desirable.

I state for the record that Mayor Alan Arakawa's budget violates Maui County's Charter and should be sent back to the Mayor's Office. It does not present a complete financial plan. It does not show all funds encumbered or unencumbered. It does not indicate any major changes in the financial policy of the County.

Specifically, as the Council is now fully aware for the first time, after the attorneys of the State of Office of Informational Practices intervened, the Department of Corporation Counsel has released thousands of agreements their department has executed with private developers that has shifted millions of dollars of their financial obligations to taxpayers and residents of Maui County. How many millions? \$137 million.

That's a lot of golf balls. Perhaps Mayor Arakawa does not consider this to be a major change or a policy that his Corporation Counsel should address in this budget. Or perhaps he has drawn the conclusion that it would not be desirable, why to explain to his appointed directors and Corporation Counsel would conceal these financial from the Council for over two decades. That's it, aloha.

CHAIR WHITE: Thank you, Mr. Poulsen.

DEPUTY COUNTY CLERK: Next testifier is Courty Gates, to be followed by Evanette Hardin.

MR. COURTY GATES:

Aloha, Councilmembers and Committee members. My name is Courty Gates, my wife and I own Lot 2, which is bordered to the east and west by the approximately 270 acres comprised of Lots 1, 3, 4, and 5, in Haiku that was purchased by the County in 2016. We dug a well, we fenced the upland area for livestock, and to remove non-native cane grass and to restore the soil. We're going to gradually restore native species, we've removed literally tons of garbage. We're going to build a home and we're going to live there.

We supported the purchase of the land by the County subject to the provision of security and care for the environmental and cultural resources. Councilmember Baisa eloquently described the \$9.5 million purchase price as a down payment, now the hard work begins.

It's not a golf course out there. You see breaching of security gates, squatting, dumping of household garbage and vehicles, vehicle dismantling and burning, hunting, theft, vandalism and damage to the environment and cultural sites by motorcycles, ATV's and trucks in the gulches.

The appearance of the area is an embarrassment to the County, and the lawless environment is creating major liability issues. There have been two fires on Lot 1, the Jaws lot in the last three weeks. I am requesting sufficient funds in the budget to

make the area safe for the public, including farmers and their property, and to preserve the cultural environmental resources.

I have three simple recommendations: communicate, enforce, and improve.

Communication should include very clear media messaging and signage about where, when, and how the public is allowed to use and access the land, and what uses are permitted. My wife and I feel very strongly that no vehicles, including motorcycles and ATV's should be allowed in the gulches so that the cultural sites can be protected and the land can heal.

Enforcement should include a new gate on the south end of Lot 1. Replacing and locking when appropriate the gates on Nahele Road. Gates on Lot 4 and other gates on Lot 1. Security cameras would also be advisable. Every gate in this area has been breached over the past year.

In addition, a regular police presence is required with multiple patrols at random times of day. The land should be swept at the end of every day and the gates locked overnight. The County should install a caretaker at the south end of Lot 1. The County should cooperate with A&B to do an inventory of illegal residents on Lot 1 and the Oili Lot and offer them social and relocation services.

Improvement should include clean-up, road improvement work, road improvement to the Jaws overlook, parking and porta potties at the Jaws overlook, water catchment, caretaker accommodations, and livestock fencing for cattle until the farmers can get up and running.

Mahalo for your time and for giving this remarkable land your thoughtful consideration and care.

CHAIR WHITE: Thank you, Mr. Gates.

DEPUTY COUNTY CLERK: Next testifier is Evanette Hardin, followed by Pamela Gatfield.

MS. EVANETTE HARDIN:

Hi, I'm here for MEO Head Start, I'm a parent there. First of all, I was a mom at the age of thirteen coming from Molokai. And of course, I didn't know what I was doing or even where to begin. We come from a very low income household where education was not key.

MEO Head Start, my first son went there and today he's gone to college, he plays sports, he graduated, he lives in Vegas, is living outside of what was ever afforded to I.

Fast forward, come to most recent time, I, my ex-husband, we reached unfortunate transition in our household, he was just, the Federal, Federals came inside our house just whisked my ex-husband away. And suddenly my five-year-old was going to a great school that cost a lot of money, and suddenly I was left practically almost homeless and unable to even send him to school.

And MEO once again stepped in and afforded by son the opportunity to go. They not only did that for us but it also showed like, how the, there's only two influences in life for our children and that's either the school or the home. And when the school comes into the home and they help to talk to the kids, help allow, talk to them to become stable and help the parents in the new transition, I think that speaks volumes of what MEO Head Start represents today.

My first son is twenty-one years old and doing great, and now my new son gets afforded this opportunity because you folks have continued to fund MEO. And without them, I don't know where we'd be today. My small, my five-year-old probably wouldn't even be in school and I probably wouldn't even be able to work. Sending me once again into poverty status again, but anyways, I just want to thank you folks for the opportunity of allowing us to speak today on behalf of MEO Head Start.

CHAIR WHITE: Thank you, Ms. Hardin.

DEPUTY COUNTY CLERK: Next testifier is Pamela Gatfield, she will be followed by Darryl Nakano.

MS. PAMELA GATFIELD:

Good evening, sorry I have to refer to my notes, I have a lot to say. I'm here for, I'm Pamela Gatfield, I'm here for Rainbow Dialysis and for my patients there to talk about transportation.

First I want to talk a little bit about, I handed materials to them, which they'll have for you covering all of this, but um, my patients are kidney patients and they have Chronic Kidney Disease.

Something about Chronic Kidney Disease. It's five stages and the End Stage is (ESRD), End Stage Renal Disease, Stage 5 where they need to have dialysis. And in kidney failure, the kidneys don't filter their blood anymore or remove excess fluid from their body and the patient suffering from ESRD need to either start dialysis or have to, to replace the kidney function or receive a kidney transplant.

So, the risk factors and implications for Maui County are, the main risk factors for kidney disease include diabetes, hypertension, high blood pressure and genetics. And National Kidney Foundation estimates that 1 in 10 U.S. adults, or over 20 million people over the age of 20 have some form of kidney disease.

But where this is really disturbing for Maui County in particular is, Hawaii estimates that 1 in 7 adults, and over have 20, over age 20 have some form of kidney disease in the State of Hawaii. And for, particularly for Native Hawaiian, Filipino, Japanese, Pacific Islanders, and Hispanic/Latino, of that descent, there is an increased risk for these populations to suffer from diabetes, hypertension and kidney disease. And this is all in the attachments that I provided.

So, there is an increasing need for transportation services, which a lot of people are unaware of. Diabetes and hypertension increase the risk of our Maui County dialysis patients that they are going to have other medical issues such as blindness, amputations, and stroke and heart attack. These disease states, or comorbidities, severely impact their ability to safely drive themselves to and from dialysis treatments or other medical appointments.

MEO Transportation provides service to 43% of our hemo patients at our Rainbow Clinic in Lahaina, and 45% of our patients in Wailuku. And our increase in patients has been 43% during the last year and this is reflective of our growing population and it's expected to continue to grow.

And Kaiser, for instance, projects that we're going to have sixty to seventy new dialysis patients during the next year. So this is excluding Liberty Dialysis which is much larger. Thank you.

CHAIR WHITE: Thank you very much, Ms. Gatfield.

DEPUTY COUNTY CLERK: Next testifier is Darryl Nakano, to be followed by Cherielee Kahalewai.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Chair, just point of order. I just got a message from someone in the public saying that Legistar is not live streaming. Are they suppose to be?

CHAIR WHITE: That what is?

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Legistar is not live streaming the meeting.

DEPUTY COUNTY CLERK: Mr. Chair, we'll work on it while the next testifier is going.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Okay. Thank you.

CHAIR WHITE: Thank you for bringing that up. Please proceed.

MR. DARRYL NAKANO:

Good evening. My name is Darryl Nakano. I am here on behalf of MEO, MEO's BEST Program, and the MEO's Rental Assistance Program which, without their help, I wouldn't be standing here and being as stable as I am today.

You know, being a, MCCC for over a year and then coming out without nothing, and a friend referred me to MEO. And Bishop came and picked me up from the Wailuku Shelter, which I went, I was living at the time. And taking me to Kmart, buying me clothes, my work shoes, shirts, socks, pants and even underwear.

You know, so, and then later on referred me to the Rental Assistance Program, which I met Dee, and um, you know, who can come up with like 1,600 you know for a, for like a deposit and first month rent. And you know, and MEO helped me with that, with the Rental Assistance Program and I'm really grateful.

I'm so grateful that I'm speaking in front this much people. I would never be here, you would never catch me here. Never. Never, and that's how grateful I am and I encourage you to continue to support them and their, you know, with their program. I'm really grateful for them. Thank you.

CHAIR WHITE: Well, congratulations on your transition.

MR. NAKANO: Thank you.

CHAIR WHITE: Thank you, Mr. Nakano.

DEPUTY COUNTY CLERK: Next testifier is Cherielee Kahalewai, followed by Lehn Huff.

MS. CHERIELEE KAHALEWAI:

Good evening. I'm here on behalf of MEO, same as the person who was here. MEO did a lot for me, BEST Program, Bishop. I came out of transition too and he picked me up, look for a job, got a job, got me clothes for my job.

Then I got out and he got me to go to Dee for my housing assistance which I got a place. If not for them, I don't think I would be working, having a job and having assistance, like he said, paying deposit and rent.

But if you could keep it in mind, please keep MEO open. How they help me, can help other people. Thank you.

CHAIR WHITE: Thank you for coming this evening.

DEPUTY COUNTY CLERK: Next testifier is Lehn Huff, followed by Maurice and Lana Bajon.

MS. LEHN HUFF:

Council Chair White, Councilmembers. I recognize some familiar faces. My name is Lehn Huff, I am currently the Director of the Maui School Garden Network. I've been doing that for nine years, I expect to continue doing that for quite a few more. I think it's a vital program to Maui.

We presently have over 8,000 students involved, actively involved in garden learning in Maui County. I'm very proud of that fact. We have 312 teachers, we have 46 garden coordinators. Last semester we produced over two tons of harvest. We have 17 partner agencies, including Grow Some Good.

We oversee, the School Garden Network oversees all of our schools, K-12 schools on Maui and Lanai, that's 45 schools, that is Department of Education schools, that is independent schools, that is one charter school, and Kamehameha Schools, Maui Campus. So I'm very proud that we have 40 schools in which our students are actively involved in garden learning. Because one of my goals is when I retired from Seabury in 2008, Seabury Hall, after 30 years of teaching there, 21 years of running the Middle School, was to bring our students back to the aina. And I think we've, we're well on the way to doing that.

Three years ago, we were fortunate enough to become the first School Garden Network in the State to receive line item funding from its County Council. I'm very

proud of our Council and its heritage that have brought me and the garden movement and more importantly our children to this point. I received a line item budget of \$15,000, and that has been true for the past three years. And this year, I am asking for an additional \$10,000 because at some point in time I must look at my demise. Sadly so, but I want to make sure that this program continues seamlessly as it has done for the past nine years.

We need to create future farmers. We need to create an understanding of our soils by our children. We need to have them improve their own nutrition and we need food self-sufficiency. An important reason for why I see this program as vital is most recently we have entered a time period in which we are surprised to find out that there is something called a semi-slug among the many slugs that we deal with in our soils, and um--

CHAIR WHITE: You got 30 seconds.

MS. HUFF: --thank you. And the Maui School Garden Network was not surprised, in fact, I held a workshop in January with our 46 garden coordinators explaining to them what semi-slug and rat lung disease was all about. And I also introduced at that time in January the booklet that had been produced by the University of Hawaii at Hilo, second grade booklet titled, Rat Lung Disease, so those children could learn at school what that was about, how to manage that at school, and take it home to our communities. Mahalo.

CHAIR WHITE: Thank you, Lehn.

DEPUTY COUNTY CLERK: Next testifier is Maurice and Lana Bajon, they will be followed by Alan Hiyakumoto.

MISS LANA BAJON:

Aloha, County Council. My name is Lana Bajon and I have been golfing since I was two years old. I came to ask you to keep the Waiehu Golf Course open. It is the only golf course I've been playing on every weekend with my daddy. I am a member and I pay \$20 for the whole month. If you close the course, I will have nowhere to work on my game. Please, please, please keep the golf course open. Mahalo.

CHAIR WHITE: Thank you, Lana.

MR. MAURICE BAJON:

Good evening, County Council, and Honorable Chair White. Thank you for allowing me to speak on behalf of Boys and Girls Clubs of Maui today. Lana really wanted to speak about the golf course, thank you for allowing her as well.

I know that at various meetings you already heard from our club members, staff, and parents, as to why the clubs are important in their communities and you'll hear probably more today. We really appreciate you listening to our story.

But I'm here because our CEO Kelly Pearson wanted me to share some exciting news with you, she wanted me to tell you about our growth. As Boys and Girls Clubs of America as a whole, in some four thousand clubs across the nation is seeing a decline in clubhouse membership and definitely teens coming to the club, we've been singled out by the Regional Director as one of the only organizations that is actually showing growth.

We have been able to increase our membership from this year, from last year to this year by some 3%. We have been also able to increase our teen average daily attendance by 3% and overall our average daily attendance for all youth that come to our clubs, we've been able to increase by 8%. And I know those numbers don't seem like a lot to you, but there are clubs in the nation that are seeing double digit decreases in their memberships and their ADA.

So for us, for our staff to do the work that we do and really hit the pavement and get these kids to come in through our doors, get these kids to get the benefits of being members at our clubs and the mentorship that they receive and the positive enforcement that they get and being able to grow to, as many of you have seen, to caring responsible citizens.

I just want to share that with you cause that was great news to us today, and thank you again for being great partners with us and allowing us to do our mission. Thank you, aloha, good night.

CHAIR WHITE: Thank you for being here this evening.

DEPUTY COUNTY CLERK: Next testifier is Alan Hiyakumoto, followed by Jenny Pell.

MR. ALAN HIYAKUMOTO:

Good evening, Council Chair and Councilmembers. My name is Alan Hiyakumoto, I work at Waiehu Golf Course. I'm here to protest the Mayor's proposal to close, privatize, or sell the golf course. A lot of golfers I see here are retirees that live and work, or worked on Maui. They contributed to our community most, if not, all of their lives and now is their time to relax and enjoy the rest of their lives. For some it's a means of pastime, for others more importantly it's a way of socializing and physical exercise. Because as you know, Waiehu is the only golf course that you can walk. For the local people who live here on Maui, working hard to make a living, Waiehu Golf Course is the only course that is affordable to play at, to play at repeatedly.

For the kids, the youths of our community, it would take away their potentials, their possibilities, their sportsmanship, scholarships and futures and, you know, and also something else to do. And that is all I have to say. Please support the golf course. Thank you.

CHAIR WHITE: Thank you, Mr. Hiyakumoto.

DEPUTY COUNTY CLERK: Next testifier is Jenny Pell, followed by Jen Fordyce.

MS. JENNY PELL:

Honorable Chair and Councilmembers. My name is Jenny Pell, and I'm the Chairperson of the Cooperatives Committee and the Board Secretary of the Hawaii Farmers Union United Haleakala Chapter. I've been a permaculture designer and agriculture consultant for 15 years, and have experience designing and implementing Food Hubs and Farmers Cooperatives.

The goal of a Food Hub is to strengthen farmer capacity to supply nearby markets by providing both physical infrastructure, such as aggregation and distribution centers and commercial kitchens for value added products, and also farm business services such as legal, financial, and other knowledge services to our local farm business men and women.

From these two core facilities and services a range of small businesses and stakeholder opportunities emerge at a Food Hub: Farm Education Programs, Incubator Farms, a Permanent Farmers Market, Native Hawaiian Agricultural and Ecological programs, Agri-tourism Events, a local food store and more.

Maui is developing a robust local food culture and strives to be more resilient in food security and food sovereignty, and less dependent on importing 95% of our food. Maui needs our small farmers to be profitable and successful. Citizens want affordable and plentiful local food. Hawaii Farmers Union United is focused on being a part of the solution by helping Maui exceed Governor Ige's call to double local food production within a few short years.

In today's regulatory environment, growers are individually challenged by food safety regulations and need access to affordable processing facilities. Maui producers need post-harvest handling facilities in every region that has significant food production.

Food safety has always been important, but today, in the wake of the Rat Lung outbreak we see just how important it is, and how vulnerable we are. Farmers on Maui are experiencing a real crisis this week as consumers large and small shy away from potentially unsafe fresh produce. Food Hubs will be a key part of the safe processing solution for Maui.

I would like to thank the Mayor for allocating \$12,000 toward the Food Hub. The Farmers Union Haleakala Chapter respectfully requests that you allocate additional funding in your budget for the planning necessary to implement these important parts of our food supply. And there's an outline of this budgetary line item in the handout. Thank you.

CHAIR WHITE: Thank you very much, Ms. Pell.

DEPUTY COUNTY CLERK: Next testifier is Jen Fordyce, followed by Daniel Kanahele.

MS. JEN FORDYCE:

Aloha, Councilmembers. Thank you for hearing all of our voices today. My name is Jen Fordyce and in addition to teaching at Baldwin High School, I also own a company called Waikapu Pickles, in its second year.

And I'm here to testify in support of MEDB and the other resources the County provides for small businesses. My business started two years ago at Maui StartUp Weekend through MEDB. And without this event, it would still be a thought in my head. In the past two years since then, they've continued to support me with workshops, consultations, and opportunities that helped me grow my business. And I'm happy to say this year, we're preparing to hire our first part-time employee, hopefully through culinary programs at Job Corps, UHMC, and Baldwin High School, to help younger students learn about entrepreneurship and local food production.

I always tell people, you know, it's very difficult to run a small business on an island. But we're lucky, I mean, just getting glass jars to this island alone is unbelievable. But we're very lucky, because we have great resources and supports available to us, so I don't have to hire an accountant or an attorney every time I have a small simple question. And that's thanks to MEDB, Maui Food Innovation Center, and similar organizations, so that someone like me with an idea and dedication and lots of hard work can have a chance to contribute to our local farmers, our local economy and our community. Thank you.

CHAIR WHITE: Thank you, Ms. Fordyce.

DEPUTY COUNTY CLERK: Next testifier is Daniel Kanahele, followed by Toni Marie Davis.

MR. DANIEL KANAHELE:

Aloha ahiahi, Chair and Councilmembers. My name is Daniel Kanahele, I'm the President of the Maui Meadows Neighborhood Association and testifying on behalf of the association. The County budget is like a big pizza pie in the sky and I'm just testifying about a very small part of that pie.

I'm, I'm asking for the Council's continued support of the 3-Can curbside recycling program in our neighborhood, Maui Meadows. Maui Meadows was along with other South Maui neighborhoods were one of the pilot program areas. And we have been recycling our green waste and recyclables ever since, helping to divert tens of thousands of tons of recyclables from going into our landfill, and also helping to support local businesses and their employees who are in the recycling program.

And the program has really helped our neighborhood get into the habit of recycling, reusing, and reducing waste. Which is something we teach in our schools, to our youth, something I teach to my scouts, in Cub Scouting as a den leader. And so we really feel good about the benefits that have accrued to us as a result of this program. So we're asking for your continued support.

This program began in August of 2012 and was going to be cut in 2015. But some of our community members rallied, 25 of us went up to the ninth floor and some of us met with Mayor Arakawa at that time. We had a meeting of the heart, meeting of the minds, and subsequent to that meeting, that the 3-Can Plan Program was reinstated. So we'd like to thank Mayor Arakawa for supporting that program and we hope that you folks will support it too.

On another note, and I'm not testifying on behalf of the association with regards to this. My father golfed a lot at the Municipal Golf Course at Waiehu in his sixties and seventies. He took up the game late and it was a bonding experience for me to go with my dad and my brother to go golfing there, so I've golfed that place too. So you don't have to be a young kid to bond with your dad, you can bond with your parents when you're much older in age. So I do support the continued benefit of the municipal golf course being made available to our community at large and I'm thankful for all those who shared their testimonies with regards to that.

So, thank you everyone. Have a great evening. Aloha.

CHAIR WHITE: Thank you, Mr. Kanahele.

DEPUTY COUNTY CLERK: Next testifier is Toni Marie Davis, followed by Damon Glastetter.

MS. TONI MARIE DAVIS:

Aloha, Chairman Mike White and Members of the County Council. Thank you for this opportunity to testify. My name is Toni Marie Davis, I am a Upcountry resident and I support the Real Property Tax increase, I also support the support for MVB.

My main reason for missing dinner and coming down here though is for my opposition of the increase in the CORA permits. My job title is Executive Director of the Activities and Attractions Association of Hawaii. We represent activities and attractions throughout the State. They are all legal, properly permitted, properly insured. They are a well vetted group and often governments tend to look at them poorly and treat them badly. They're a group of, a lot of them are really small owner operator organizations and the increase in the fee permits is for some of them as much as a 400% increase.

I'm a little torn though, because often called illegal operators, which are not illegal operators, that are not CORA permitted, there are such entities, there's a gentleman that testified earlier about that, who are members of the organization cause they are legal. And he speaks the truth, there are situations where this door is closed and the permits are being used as property that shouldn't be. It's a public resource.

So I'm a bit torn in my testimony, but raising the fees to this amount is not the answer. There's some work that needs to be done, and you know, I find it whining, if you come to a place just to complain, right, you don't have a solution. And in searching my mind and having been with the, you know, the State with activities, the

best example I can find of a successful program was done by Kurt Cuttrell, with the Division of Forestry through the DLNR for the State. And it's a permitting process where the doors are open for those that acquire the permit. And what happens is there is like a reservation system, much like what Haleakala just did, right. Haleakala with the sunrise, too many people loving the place to death, so they have a vetting process, right, they um, so you have permittees but you have reservations.

And I'm much a fan of the limited capacities by venue, by park. I would really support that, but increasing the permits is not the answer, I think there is a better solution. So I just urge you to reconsider that. They went from \$50 to \$100 to \$500 and now \$2,400 a year per permit, per venue, per park. That's way too much. Thank you very much.

CHAIR WHITE: Thank you, Ms. Davis.

DEPUTY COUNTY CLERK: Next testifier is Damon Glastetter, followed by Samantha U'u.

MR. DAMON GLASTETTER:

Aloha, Chairman White and Councilmembers. I'm here as a individual and a business owner, testifying in support of Maui Economic Development Board, continued budget support for them. I feel that they're working very efficiently with the funds that they're given to help Maui build toward a, the right future for Maui.

The renewable energy goal for Hawaii needs infrastructure and an educated workforce. They're helping out with their partnership with JUMPSmart, with the Japanese government, Hitachi, also with educational programs in the schools that will contribute greatly towards a clean energy future for homes, businesses, and the transportation sector.

CHAIR WHITE: Thank you very much for coming this evening.

DEPUTY COUNTY CLERK: Next testifier is Samantha U'u, followed by Victoria Satoaifaiga.

MS. SAMANTHA U'U:

Aloha, everyone. My name is Samantha U'u and I just want to start off by saying how thankful I am here, thankful I am here today in front of you all and to let you know how you continue to make an impact to every child that walks through the doors at the Boys and Girls Club of Maui. I can personally say this because I was once a

member. I became a member in 2007 and to this very day, my experience with the club has been nothing short other than a blessing.

My family and I moved to Maui in 2006, to escape our disturbed life and to start a new one. Our family, my family and I have been through so much hardships, from homelessness, domestic violence, to affiliation with drugs, and being placed in foster care. Imagine raising one child, it can be quite challenging, but raising six must have been harder. However, as hard as my parents tried, life kept throwing obstacles in their way, and for that very long year, my parents struggled to find their footing and eventually they lost sight at what they wanted to accomplish. Which in return led up to my siblings and I being placed in foster homes while my parents were incarcerated and put into programs to better themselves. Six kids under the age of 18, placed in foster care, we weren't mentally prepared for the separation, but the separation, I'm so sorry.

CHAIR WHITE: No, take your time.

MS. U'U: Separation was proven to be very difficult because we weren't just separated in two homes, but three different homes and in three different cities. Since we've been in care, my older brother and I continue to be, continue to attend the club on a regular basis, because it was the only place that we felt like normal teenagers. It took us away from our own reality and made it feel like we had a second home. And home plays a really important part in our family. Have you ever heard of "Home is Where the Heart is", well this home, this home provided all of us, all six of us to see each other, to be together in one place. And the Boys and Girls Club provided that for us.

For three long years we were getting by, but it wasn't until 2011 that my siblings and I were reunited with my father. And for six years he gave us a stable life and a safe life with the backing of the Boys and Girls Club. Thank you.

CHAIR WHITE: Thank you very much for being here this evening, Ms. U'u.

DEPUTY COUNTY CLERK: Next testifier is Victoria Satoafaiga, followed by Kapono Naeole.

MS. VICTORIA SATOAFAGA:

Good evening, County Council, Chairman White. My name is Victoria Satoafaiga, I'm the Unit Director of the Boys and Girls Club of Maui, Central Club. I first off just wanted to say a huge mahalo to all of you for all that you do for us and for the kids of Maui. As you may know, Central Club is the Main Clubhouse, one of six that we

have here on the island, and my club specifically we have 535 registered members, we have an average of about 150 kids a day that attend our club. We serve youth ranging in ages from 9 to 17 years old, and all of our kids come from different schools, whether it be from Baldwin High School, Lokelani Intermediate, all the way to Paia Elementary.

When school is out, our clubs are in session, full force, holidays, 8 to 6 p.m., immediately after school to 7 p.m. The kids in our community actually choose to come to the club, I'm sure some of them are forced to, however majority of them ask and plead their parents if they can come to the club daily.

I truly love what I do, and I'm grateful for the opportunity to work with the kids that we have here in the island. With your continuous support, we are able to reach more youth, and these youth really just need a safe place, a place where they can go and really just keep themselves occupied. I also believe that if we keep our kids busy, they'll have less time to be out on the streets, less time getting into trouble.

And so, yeah, I just wanted to say thank you guys very much.

CHAIR WHITE: Thank you for being here this evening.

DEPUTY COUNTY CLERK: Next testifier is Kapono Naeole, followed by Stan Franco.

MR. KAPONO NAEOLE:

Aloha, everyone. My name is Kapono Naeole and I am a Unit Director for Boys and Girls Club of Maui, Paukukalo Club.

I wanted to share with you a short story about one of our members. She's been a member since she was six years old and she's a member of the Hawaiian Emersion Program also at Paia School, Kalama School. Being in that program has made it very difficult for her to learn to read and write English. She got into Kalama School at sixth grade and was behind in all of her regular education classes. Through that, she continued to come to the club and through the tutoring we were able to provide with her, she was able to overcome that. She's now eighth grade, and her grades are way up. English is now one of her favorite classes, she holds a 3.8 GPA. Now the story I just gave you is just one of our members.

Each day we have about 150 to 170 kids at our club and out of that number just over 50% are Hawaiian Emersion. Thanks to all the support you guys provide us, we're able to provide this tutoring and all this homework help. We continue to encourage

all of our kids to pick up their grades and to do well in all aspects of life. But we, you know, desperately need the support from you guys and we definitely appreciate everything you've done for us and the kids of Maui.

I was one of those kids. At sixth grade, I was in Hawaiian Emersion and could barely read and write English. We were put in ESL classes and you know, some kids kind of looked at us once in a while, but, you know, I had support from people who cared about me and that's what we provide for our kids. So it's very important that we continue to provide this for every kid in Hawaii, not just the Hawaiian Emersion but all students and we just thank you guys for your guys love and all your guys support. Mahalo.

CHAIR WHITE: Thank you very much, Kapono.

DEPUTY COUNTY CLERK: Next testifier is Stan Franco, followed by Gary Hashizaki.

MR. STAN FRANCO:

Good evening, Council Chair White and Committee Members. I'm Stan Franco, Co-Chair of the Face Maui Housing Committee. I must admit, I have a little confession here, good Catholic that I am, I thought I was going to speak to the Budget Committee and not the Council, so I have it wrong in my information. But the information is still good.

Face Maui is asking the Maui County Council to invest 250,000 for Maui's people to hire a Housing Advocate and an Executive Assistant to complete an affordable housing plan for Maui County's people. The question is "why?"

For the past 30 years, I've been talking about the need for affordable housing on Maui. I've asked Mayors, major landowners to make land available so that we can build homes for the people of Maui, Molokai, and Lanai, but this has not happened.

This past January, we invited Rick Blangiardi from KGMB/KHNL News to our Martin Luther King Day Celebration to talk about Housing Justice in Hawaii. He said and I paraphrase that the biggest issue to building affordable homes is that we do not have the political will to do so.

Yesterday, I called Peter Savio to invite him to come to Maui to speak to the Face Maui's Housing Committee on his ideas on how to address our housing crisis. He said that he has looked for Maui land and he believes that he could build up to 500 homes priced from 250,000 to 300,000 without a government subsidy.

Ray Phillips, a Maui developer who wants to help bring solutions to our housing crisis, wrote that we need to create and I quote, "a master plan including overall goals, and objectives, an overall time table and individual time lines for each objective".

In a viewpoint in the October 4, 2016 Maui News, I wrote that one of the main reasons for the housing crisis is competing interests among land developers, environmentalists, and government officials. We must talk and work with each other and sometimes we have to give up some of our interests for the benefit of all our people. We got to change the no-can to can.

I congratulate the Maui County Council last year for its initiative called the Temporary Investigative Group and its meetings with community leaders to surface answers to Maui's housing crisis. Good ideas were surfaced and we hope in 2018 some of these ideas will become law.

Face Maui believes that we have a good start, but we need a greater effort to meet the needs of our people. The State of Hawaii said our population would increase by 25% in the next ten years and we have all this pent-up demand of years, of years of not building homes. We need to do better, we need to build homes. We need someone to develop a plan, please appropriate \$250,000 for our Housing Advocate. Thank you.

CHAIR WHITE: Thank you, Mr. Franco.

DEPUTY COUNTY CLERK: Next testifier is Gary Hashizaki, followed by Brian Kanegai.

MR. GARY HASHIZAKI:

My name is Gary Hashizaki and I love golf. I used to play golf when I was in my twenties and thirties and when I took up Uluu fishing in 1981, the golf club stayed home because you work Monday through Friday and you only can go fishing on the weekends. I'm a retired Union carpenter.

In 1983 I joined Maui Casting Club and in '85 I became the President until now. I retired 19 years ago and now I have so much time on my hands. I can't go fish every night. So my two sons started playing golf and they said dad, let's go play golf. Eh, come on let's try it. Get my dad's old club, go play, the blood all came back, it's so fun. It doesn't matter how you play, but one shot could be the whole day. But

19 years I've been retired, I'm out there Wednesdays and Fridays, 7:10 teeing off every morning with my retiree gang and some younger guys that hit the ball real far.

But anyway, I cannot see how we losing three million dollars when you guys bringing in revenue. Other parks and swimming pools don't bring in revenue, so why don't you guys close up all the other rest then. You know, already, you know, like I said, I'm a avid fisherman, you guys lock up Hookipa, Baldwin Park, Stable Road, Kanaha, even Waiehu. We used to fish there overnight, not anymore, there's gates.

And now, look at the Junior Program, the Junior Program and the high school, that's so great, we didn't have that in our days. You going to take that away from them. Another thing is, how many of them get scholarships to go to college and play golf? And look at baseball, same thing. You guys going close up all the parks, wherever Shane Victorino and Kurt Suzuki that's in the majors, you know, that played in the majors. So we might have a Michelle Wee and a Tiger Woods, playing golf, you know.

Anyway our superintendent there, Guy, he's doing one hell of a job, him and his workers, I give 'em credit. So, I thank you guys.

CHAIR WHITE: Thank you, Mr. Hashizaki.

DEPUTY COUNTY CLERK: Next testifier is Brian Kanegai, followed by Alissa Okada.

MR. BRIAN KANEGAI:

My name is Brian Kanegai, mahalo for having this meeting and allowing people to comment on the fate of Waiehu Golf Course.

I've been a property owner on Maui since 1976 and I would guess the majority of the golfers at Waiehu could say they are property owners that contribute to the County's treasury.

I learned to play golf at Waiehu in the mid-80's as many people have done before me and after. Waiehu is a microcosm of Maui, so many residents enjoying a round of golf in their retirement, or after work, or on their days off. I look at the County Council and am confident that we have elected a special group of individuals that are receptive of their constituents' feelings and needs. I'm an advocate in not only keeping Waiehu viable but improving by any means the playability of the course. To many of us, Waiehu is not just a golf course but a historical site that needs to be saved and improved for many future generations to enjoy. Mahalo.

DEPUTY COUNTY CLERK: Next testifier is Alissa Okada, followed by Caelyn Taibemal.

MS. ALISSA OKADA:

Hello, my name is Alissa Okada and I am in the seventh grade at Maui Waena. I've been going to MEO Youth Services for one year now. Before I came to this program, I was not social and stayed by myself. But now I have friends in the program and outside of it.

At the MEO Youth Service, we do activities that boost our self-esteem, confidence, skills, cooking, and speaking in public. For example, we learned how to slice and cut without cutting ourselves. Also, we learn about how to bake and make sandwiches. We also do community awareness about vaping, drugs, underage drinking, and drinking while driving. We also help underprivileged by baking cookies during the holidays and helping out at a company called Feed My Sheep.

We also do cultural things like hiking. We learn about invasive plants and we saw a play of Ualena. We also do things like snorkeling at Molokini, camping in Hana, hiking and participate in various community activities.

Thank you for your time and I hope you continue to support us.

CHAIR WHITE: Thank you very much. Take a deep breath.

DEPUTY COUNTY CLERK: Next testifier is Caelyn Taibemal, followed by Kaiyle Okada.

CHAIR WHITE: Actually after the next testifier, we'll take a 10 minute break.

MS. CAELYN TAIBEMAL:

Aloha, my name is Caelyn Taibemal and I'm here on behalf of MEO or Maui Economic Opportunity Youth Services Program. I'm 12 years old and I'm a seventh grader at Maui Waena Intermediate. I have been attending MEO for almost a year now. I became involved with MEO due to underage drinking prevention curriculum in school. Since then, it has expanded my view on alcohol as well as other substances that target today's teens, myself included.

Through MEO, I was also introduced to many other agencies on Maui which allowed us, for us to understand why we all should give back to community with service projects, events, and activities focusing on positive alternatives to underage drinking.

I have worked alongside with other youth from throughout Maui, which I had the opportunity to meet through the MEO Youth Service Program. We have done many things around the island, like going to Haleakala, Molokini and Whale Day. MEO has been a huge help with my social development. I have been getting better at conversing with different people, speaking louder and making eye contact.

Through MEO, youth can learn about the dangers of underage drinking, drinking and driving, teen pregnancies which may or may not include alcohol, and how to say no to things like alcohol, drugs, cigarettes and vaping. We have also learned about how to prevent suicide and how to help a friend or even a complete stranger with suicide.

Without MEO, I would be at home on my phone or arguing with my sister, being miserable. MEO is very helpful, so I hope that you can continue supporting us. Thank you for listening and supporting us.

CHAIR WHITE: Thank you very much, Caelyn. Members, we are going to take a break until, be back in your seats a little before 7:45 pm. Ten-minute break. Recess.

(THE PUBLIC HEARING WAS RECESSED BY THE CHAIR AT 7:33 P.M., AND WAS RECONVENED AT 7:46 P.M., WITH ALL MEMBERS PRESENT; EXCEPT COUNCILMEMBERS ATAY, COCHRAN, GUZMAN, AND HOKAMA EXCUSED.)

CHAIR WHITE: This meeting of the, this public hearing will please come back to order.

Mr. Clerk.

DEPUTY COUNTY CLERK: The next testifier is from our Hana District Office. Ms. Lono will you please introduce your first testifier.

MS. DAWN LONO: Yes, good evening. This is Dawn Lono at the Hana Office and the first testifier is Cynthia Santiago.

MS. CYNTHIA SANTIAGO:

Hi, good afternoon, Councilmembers. My name again is Cynthia Santiago and I'm speaking as a resident of East Maui and would like to request that there be a consideration given to the paving of the back roads of East Maui, the Kaupo area. I

use this road as do many others and believe it is a better route for many commuters than the Hana Highway. I understand that there were plans to pave this month which was diverted.

(Councilmember Atay returned to the public hearing at 7:47 p.m.)

MS. SANTIAGO: But with 1,300 cars, vans, and buses traveling to Hana daily at this time, it would seem practical as well as beneficial to move forward with plans again to pave this Kaupo Highway.

So, admittedly I don't know why it would stop, but I would like to just encourage the moving forward on looking at paving that road again. I don't know what's necessary in order for this to happen, but these are my thoughts. I use that road every time I go to the other side, it's better for me in my condition, it's better for a lot of other people that, you know, just don't want to manage the Hana Highway. And I think it would just be very beneficial and practical all the way around and that was what I wanted to say tonight. Thank you very much for listening.

CHAIR WHITE: Thank you, Ms. Santiago.

DEPUTY COUNTY CLERK: Hana District Office, do you have any further testifiers?

MS. LONO: There is no one waiting in the Hana Office to testify.

DEPUTY COUNTY CLERK: Thank you. The next testifier is Kaiyle Okada, followed by Nelvin Ruiz.

MS. KAIYLE OKADA:

Hi, my name is Kaiyle, I'm a sophomore at Maui High School and I've been going to the MEO Youth Service Program for five years. In the Youth Service Program, we do activities that build leadership and career and life skills such as increasing tolerance, being determined and having good communication. We also learn how to cook, cooperate with each other, become resilient and build social skills to become well rounded individuals.

In this program, we do prevention and awareness activities on the topics of underage drinking, cyber bullying, teen suicide, substance and tobacco abuse by discussing the topics and doing things like sign waving and picking up tobacco butts to bring awareness to the community especially to people my age.

Through MEO Youth Services we hold leadership nights once a month, consisting of high school students. On these nights we are exposed to leadership skills that help us make tough decisions in our young lives. Also with leadership night, it helps me open up to other programs within the County. For example, becoming involved with the County's Tobacco Coalition to push for the passage of three Senate bills, which could have prohibited smoking on university campus, in cars, and have tighter restrictions on vaping products.

Before coming to the MEO Youth Service Program, I was quiet and awkward and I didn't really talk to anyone, because I was afraid that they wouldn't like me. But over the past five years, I have grown to be more confident than I was before. This program has helped me become a better person by teaching me to make good choices and boosting my self-esteem. I enjoy coming to this program and I'm grateful to be a part of it. Thank you for continuous support.

CHAIR WHITE: Good job, Kaiyle.

DEPUTY COUNTY CLERK: The next testifier is Nelvin Ruiz, followed by Mike Ishikawa.

MR. NELVIN RUIZ:

Thank you. Thank you, Mr. Chair, Council. This my first time in here and this place is beautiful. Must cost a lot of money. And everything here is all about money.

I'm here on behalf of Waiehu Golf Course. I've played there for 39 years and right now if you can really deep, dig in your pockets like you do for the other agencies, I would really appreciate you keeping Waiehu open. Thank you.

CHAIR WHITE: Thank you, Mr. Ruiz. Thanks for coming out this evening.

DEPUTY COUNTY CLERK: Next testifier is Mike Ishikawa, followed by Ronda Barstad.

MR. MIKE ISHIKAWA:

Good evening, Councilmembers, Chair White. My name is Mike Ishikawa, I'm the President of Maui Junior Golf Association. You know, when you hear the name Shane Victorino or Kurt Suzuki, what do you think of? Well, I think of two local Maui boys, visualizing their dream and making it big in the big leagues and coming back and helping the community, ten-fold.

(Councilmember Guzman returned to the public hearing at 7:52 p.m.)

MR. ISHIKAWA: But where do these people get their start? Well to me, a mile down the street at the Little League fields on Kanaloa Avenue. Now if those fields weren't there, would they be playing ball today? Maybe not, probably a good chance not.

You know, a few, a couple of weeks ago I came here before you and talked about my daughter starting at Waiehu Golf Course and now playing college golf at Eastern Washington. And not only her, there's been many that, that has followed that path. Cassie Isagawa, Tyler Munetake to name a few.

I urge you to fund or to figure out a way to fund Waiehu Golf Course. If the golf course closes, you basically shut down the Little League fields for the junior golfers.

Earlier this evening, you saw a lot of Junior's out here in support of the course. It's the only course they can affordable; they can afford to play and without it, we may not have another Michelle Wie.

At the end of the day, it's your job to crunch the numbers and I urge you to make it work. Find a way to fund the course and keep it affordable. Thank you.

CHAIR WHITE: Thank you for coming this evening.

Mr. Clerk.

DEPUTY COUNTY CLERK: Next testifier is Ronda Barstad, followed by Nikki Russell.

MS. RONDA BARSTAD:

Aloha.

CHAIR WHITE: Aloha.

MS. BARSTAD: Council, thank you very much for all you're going to do for us, I hope. I just want to say, I've lived in my house 41 years and all that time I thought my house was subsidizing Waiehu Golf Course, because we had to come to the State office and get those little cards to put at the window, and also years ago we use to have a flat rate.

When I first, by the way, today's my birthday, I'm 66, but I've been playing 33 years. So 33, half my life, I've been playing at Waiehu Golf Course. I couldn't afford to play golf at the resorts now, even kamaaina rates are out of sight, even though when I first

started I could play Wailea Gold, or Wailea Orange for \$15.00 or \$30.00, but when it became \$130.00 for kamaaina, you can't afford that anymore.

So, if they close Waiehu Golf Course, my husband and I will have to give up golf. I am also, this is what I've got for an arm but I was out there this morning playing Waiehu Golf Course, not a lot of follow through these days, but I get off the couch and I am out there playing with my friends, who also couldn't afford to play, we're all seniors and couldn't afford to play there, anywhere else.

And I just want to say, I think this was an arbitrary decision on the Mayor's part. That it didn't come before the public, before this to hash over what was a problem and bring it to our attention and put it on a ballot. I am very upset about that this wasn't brought before people first, and it was just kind of, we're blindsided, we're just blindsided. This course was made for the people, when we were a territory.

So, thank you very much and I will say in California, you pay to go to public swimming pools, you pay to go to public parks, even if it's a couple of bucks, you can get some revenue from all the other people. I don't see why the golf course has to have revenue when no other County operations have to have a single cent come in, but they have to have management and care, preening, cutting, whatever it takes for the other parks.

CHAIR WHITE: Thank you very much, Ms. Barstad.

DEPUTY COUNTY CLERK: Next testifier is Nikki Russell, followed by Adam Evert.

MS. NIKKI RUSSELL:

Good evening, Chair White and Councilmembers. My name is Nikki Russell and I'd like to offer my comments regarding the Maui Humane Society and our humane enforcement officers and their important role on Maui.

As a volunteer, I have logged over 1,200 volunteer hours over the last four years. My 85-year-old grandmother and I volunteer every Saturday in the cat building because we love animals. I have volunteered the majority of the MASH clinics. That's our Mobile Animal Surgical Hospital Clinic, where by way of a Pet Smart grant, we can offer high quality, high volume free spay and neuter services to Maui County. I would like to thank the Council for the monies that you've appropriated so that we can currently offer free spay and neuter on a daily basis.

Over the past four years, I've had the opportunity to foster many cats and kittens in my home and lucky enough that some of those foster animals have benefitted from the multiple Humane Society programs, like the Hope Fund and Wings of Aloha. We recently adopted one of the Hope Fund kittens, a Booboo Bear, he was a teenage cat that had been severely injured, had a huge wound exposing most of his right hind quarter. And Dr. Lisa Labreque, one of our veterinarians, provided life changing services and surgeries over the course of four months, so that our sweet little Georgie can now live a happy, normal life with our family. And our little miracle boy is just one example of how the Hope Fund can save the lives of Maui County's abandoned animals.

Another of my favorite programs is the Wings of Aloha. This program has and continues to save so many lives. Unlike Maui, there are counties in Oregon and Washington State that don't have enough animals to fill their needs. Wings of Aloha allows us to send kittens, cats, FIV positive cats, puppies, dogs, and senior dogs to facilities where they are guaranteed to be adopted.

I have watched the Humane Society evolve dramatically over the four years that I've been lucky enough to be involved with their organization. It's been exciting to see new programs, like the Beach Buddies program, which allows shelter dogs on outings to the beach, doggie play groups, allowing trained staff and volunteers to get dogs out of their kennels and out on the field to play and interact with other dogs.

I'm constantly impressed with the staff at MHS. They deal with very difficult situations every day, namely our humane enforcement officers, who are out there covering all of our island, taking care of complaints with the community and making sure that animals are taken care of.

Um, I can't truly express how proud I am of the Humane Society and their accomplishments, nor can I adequately express how fortunate I am to be a member of the Maui Humane Society ohana. Thank you for your time and Ms. King, thank you for the sunflowers.

CHAIR WHITE: Thank you for your volunteerism.

DEPUTY COUNTY CLERK: Next testifier is Adam Evert, followed by Richard Perreira.

MR. ADAM EVERT:

Good evening, Chairman White and Councilmembers. I'm here on behalf of MEO and the BEST Program. Currently, a furlough participant and I just want to say that it

is essential for the BEST Program to continue. They help us tremendously with clothing, transportation to and from work, transportation to our jobs to get interviews. They have a great, ah, they have a great, what was I going to say now, sorry. But anyways, they communicate well with our employers, they know all the different jobs and employers that we need to go to and you know, without them it would be extremely hard not, it would be extremely hard to get a job.

So, I'm just grateful for them and I'm grateful for you guys to continue the support with them. Thank you.

CHAIR WHITE: Thank you, Mr. Evert.

DEPUTY COUNTY CLERK: Next testifier is Richard Perreira, followed by Wes Yoshioka.

MR. RICHARD PERREIRA:

Good evening, Mr. Chairman White, Councilmembers, Aunty Stacey. Aloha.

Like, Mr. Evert, I'm in the MCCC Work Furlough Program, and what I'm going to present to you guys today, tonight, is how the BEST Program really help us out.

Unfortunately, a lot of us, we burn our bridges with our family and we get nothing. And to get a better life in the furlough program, you gotta start and the first thing, we need the money that helps provide birth certificates, your social security card, that's the only way, the only way you can start, going back into society.

I not suppose to mention names, but the two men that work at the BEST Program, they go out of their way. Your folks money that you guys give to us and the program gives us a big step towards succeeding in our life. It's hard, but with you guys backing us, we can make it. A high percentage of us that come out and go to the, is low level working people, no skill. And one of the basic things we need right now in society is your license. Many of us get traffic fines and stuff like that. The budget money that you guys grant MEO help us, meet us half way to get their license and get us, let me say, higher paying skills.

Asking you folks to search you guys heart. You know what I mean, I not here talking about one golf course, I talking about one program that help men like us. I nervous but I know you guys can see where I coming from, so the money that you guys give, keep on giving. Aloha, God Bless.

CHAIR WHITE: Thank you, Mr. Perreira. Thanks for coming by.

DEPUTY COUNTY CLERK: Next testifier is Wes Yoshioka. Last call, Wes Yoshioka.

Next testifier is Cindy Schumacher, followed by Karen May Taroma.

MS. CINDY SCHUMACHER:

Aloha, Mr. Chair and Council. My name is Cindy Schumacher, I'm a journalist for the Lahaina News and I write the Focus Maui Nui column in the Maui News on Wednesdays.

I'm here to ask your continued support for two of Maui Economic Development Boards programs beginning with the Energy Conference. As you know in 2015, Governor Ige signed Bill HB 623 to achieve 100% renewable energy by 2045. And this commitment has made Hawaii a national leader in clean energy. The 2017 Energy Conference provided the stage for Hawaii to meet its goals through continued exploration and discussion connecting local, national, and international stakeholders, and provided information and networking opportunities across all energy sectors. With your continued support, the Energy Conference will meet again on Maui to work on ag, water, and energy issues and challenges that focus on achieving Hawaii's clean energy goals.

Secondly, I'd like to ask your support for MEDB's Space in the Classroom Educational Outreach Program at the AMOS Conference. Space in the Classroom provides Maui County students the chance to experience hands on scientific lessons including a portable planetarium provided by trained scientist and STEM educators. By funding Space in the Classroom, you offer students the chance to dream big and the opportunity to see that well-paying, high tech jobs are available for them right here in Hawaii. Your support ignites a flame of learning in students that they might not receive in the classroom. In fact this program provides a day when their textbooks come to life. For example, Dr. Ryan Swindle from Air Force Research Lab, demonstrates the importance of ground based astronomy with the portable, digital planetarium, and he explains how the Hokulea voyage navigates using astronomical coordinate systems by the stars, constellations, and planets.

Thank you for your time and support for these programs. Aloha.

CHAIR WHITE: Thank you for being here this evening.

DEPUTY COUNTY CLERK: Next testifier is Karen May Taroma, followed by Giel Marie Tolentino.

MS. KAREN MAY TAROMA:

Aloha, Councilmembers. My name is Karen May Taroma and I am currently a freshman at the University of Hawaii Maui College. I am here today on behalf of Maui Economic Development Board's Women in Technology Project, their STEM Education Outreach Program.

Maui Economic Development Board has been a great impact in my life since my high school year. I was involved in STEMworks and participated in the 2016 WIT Summer Internship, as well as the Maui High School Robotics program which were all supported with MEDB. As a Robotics captain for the First Robotics from 2014 to 2016, I've gained leadership skills that I now apply in my college career and my work career. I did not just gain personal skills but I've gained connections that led me to work at MEDB Office and become a volunteer at Maui High School.

Through your support of STEM programs and initiatives promoted through MEDB's educational programs, many students like me will be able to participate in programs like STEM Conference, STEMworks Internship, Excite Camp, and many more. I am glad that I was able to participate in programs like MEDB that supported during my high school career. Now I am working at MEDB as an IT Assistant, to help MEDB jump start the younger generation's interest in the STEM field.

Mahalo for your generous support and I hope you continue to support MEDB's Women in Technology projects.

CHAIR WHITE: Thank you for being here this evening.

DEPUTY COUNTY CLERK: Next testifier is Giel Marie Tolentino, followed by Paul W. Schumacher Jr.

MS. GIEL MARIE TOLENTINO:

Aloha, Councilmembers. My name is Giel Marie Tolentino and I am currently a freshman at the University of Hawaii Maui College. I am here this evening on behalf of Maui Economic Development Board's Women in Technology Project, their STEM Education Outreach Program.

During my high school years at Maui High, I was involved with the Video Club which allowed me to participate in the 2016 WIT Summer Internship and attended the

STEM Conference. The STEM Conference not only helped me connect with students across the State, but also allowed me to take part in hands-on student sessions which were led by industry professionals across the nation.

Your support and continued funding of MEDB's Women in Technology projects will not only help expand future student's interests, but also give them an opportunity to be involved with the hands-on programs and workshops such as Introduce a Girl to Engineering Day, STEMworks Internships, Excite Camp, and more. I am happy to say that I was a part of some of these programs during my high school year, and proud to say that I am now working at MEDB as an IT Assistant to give back to the schools and help lead our future STEM industry workers.

Mahalo for your support and I hope you continue to support the MEDB's Women in Technology projects. Thank you.

CHAIR WHITE: Thank you, Ms. Tolentino.

DEPUTY COUNTY CLERK: Next testifier is Paul Schumacher, Jr., followed by Randy Davis.

DR. PAUL SCHUMACHER, JR.:

Good evening, Mr. Chairman and Councilmembers. I'm Dr. Paul Schumacher, I'm a research engineer at Airforce Research Laboratory, one of the few government guys, Federal guys on this island. I'm here tonight to thank you first of all for your past support of Maui Economic Development Board, particularly in their sponsorship of the AMOS Technical Conference. Many of you heard of this, if you haven't heard of it, I'll be glad to fill you in on why it's important.

My field of research is Space Situational Awareness, that's why I'm on Maui for the last 11½ years and why I'll be on Maui for the next 20 plus, I hope. The, it really cannot be overemphasized how important it is to the United States to have Maui where it is. Twenty-one degrees north latitude in the middle of the Pacific Ocean is definitely prime real estate in the space surveillance business. Not just the astronomy business but in national defense and increasingly the national economic life. Because as we depend more on space systems, we have to know what's going on in space.

The AMOS Conference is the world's best conference in this field. Hard to believe the world's best in a high-tech field like that, right here in Maui. Yes, I can tell you

personally, we don't have time tonight, but I'll be glad to go into it, you've got my contact info and I'll be happy to talk with you anytime.

I'd just like to point out that there are very few ways that you can spend money in Maui County and have an immediate and positive impact for Maui nationwide. Government agencies, research universities, high tech companies from coast to coast, and in fact overseas, think well of what's going on in Maui in this particular field. It's one of those things where the investment is hard to calculate, the payoff is even harder to calculate, but I encourage you to look into this business. Find creative ways to support Maui Economic Development Board, help them pull off this conference every year if there's any way you can. The benefit is way beyond what we can probably go into tonight or even on anybody's spreadsheet. But I'll be happy to talk about it, and looks like I'm out of time. Anyway, thank you very much.

CHAIR WHITE: You got 30 seconds to go, but--

DR. SCHUMACHER: I've got 30 minutes worth of things to say, sir. Thank you for, for that margin. Thank you.

CHAIR WHITE: Thank you very much, Doctor.

DEPUTY COUNTY CLERK: Next testifier is Randy Davis. Last call, Randy Davis.

Next testifier is Edde Kanai, followed by Kaulana Pu'u.

MR. EDDE KANAI:

My name is Edde Kanai and I am a Systems Engineer with a Mechanical Engineering background. I work for an aerospace company up on the telescopes on Haleakala and I'd like to talk about a couple of topics.

The AMOS Conference which you just heard about, as well as, Maka Hou Lana'i both presented by the Maui Economic Development Board. The AMOS Conference is a premiere space surveillance, space situational awareness conference in the world, bringing nearly 700 attendees from 18 countries. With the current state of the world, it is very important for us to know what is coming towards Hawaii.

As others have talked tonight about a local resource like the Waiehu Golf Course, the AMOS Conference provides those of us who live and work in Maui the opportunity to network, to hear new advances in launching and operating satellites, to exchange ideas, to come up with innovative solutions, as well as, to monitor space debris.

The cost of mainland travel is very high, such that my company might only approve one or two of us to travel to a mainland conference. But the AMOS Conference gives us, gives many of us here the opportunity to interact with the military, the government workers, and others in the industry both domestic and international.

Besides bringing attendees to Maui, the AMOS Conference also hosts a STEM education opportunity for Maui students. Last year, the booth I worked at had two different stations showing how planets and satellites revolve around the sun using a wireless robot ball and another showing how to align a laser to a sensor. Other exhibitors also had activities for the students to help promote science and space projects.

MEDB also bused the students up to the summit where we had additional science activities. And we were able to recently host a Women in Engineering Day where the young wahine came up for a tour and participated in promoting STEM education.

Another opportunity I had with MEDB was with participating in Maka Hou Lana'i event as a coach. It was a very educational experience not only for the residents of Lanai who attended, but also for me. The group I helped to coach focused on trying to come up with a solution to help the aging residents who only have an option there between regular medical care and hospice. While being able to contribute my systems engineering skills to this project, I also learned from the other coaches and participants on how to ask better questions and to identify physical response cues. I learned there are many different, difficult challenges with living and working on Lanai and I hope that you continue to support programs on the outer Maui islands to help them succeed.

Mahalo for your time and support for MEDB programs like the AMOS Conference and Maka Hou Lana'i.

CHAIR WHITE: Thank you, Mr. Kanai.

DEPUTY COUNTY CLERK: Next testifier is Kaulana Pu'u, followed by Nanea Hoshino.

MR. KAULANA PU'U:

Hello, my name Kaulana Pu'u, I'm from Maui Nui Botanical Gardens. I started out working there as a part time intern for Maui Nui, I mean Maui College majoring in Agriculture, and I worked my way up to a full time landscaping position.

I would like to ask for continued funding for Maui Nui Botanical Gardens. Maui Nui has provided me the opportunity to work hands on with rare native plants that would normally require a hike or accompanied escort to even see it in it's natural habitat. I also have the opportunity to lead groups of volunteers weekly along with school groups and educate them about our natives and invasives, as well as the landscaping practices we use there.

Maui Nui has also provided me the resources to attend a Landscape Industry Certified Technician Training Course, so that I can better take care of the garden at a professional level. Being from here, I have a great interest in the conservation of these native plants, and Maui Nui provides me a great way for anyone to come see and learn about them.

The County's continued support allows awareness to be spread about the importance of these native species and I love what I do there and I think it's a great way to educate people about these native species. Thank you for your time.

CHAIR WHITE: Thank you for coming tonight.

DEPUTY COUNTY CLERK: Next testifier is Nanea Hoshino. Followed by Chris d'Avella.

MR. NANEAAEA HOSHINO:

Aloha ma'i . . . My name is Naneaaea Hoshino, I'm from Lahaina, Maui. I grow, I work at Maui Nui Botanical Garden, my position is Kalo Varieties Manager. And, you know, I've been working there three years and my position as Kalo Field Assistant or Kalo Varieties Manager is, I'm a Cultural Practitioner as well, so my education to the importance of kalo, of the oral history of the connections of haloanakalaukapalili, but to educate as a, of a farmer, to be a kalo farmer.

But my education or my job is to educate the community on kalo varieties and the sustainable living of why it's important to cultivate kalo. So it's not only about food crop, yeah, it's oral history of how we relate ourselves to kalo. Yeah, and I done educations and I do cultural workshops through, at Maui Nui Botanical Gardens. But for myself, why is it important here, is because at Maui Nui we have a lot of community that comes and I mostly help with, you know, identification. And for us, for myself, you know, it gives an opportunity that we can expose this knowledge to the, our community and to the people itself. Mahalo.

DEPUTY COUNTY CLERK: Next testifier is Chris d'Avella, followed by Whit Germano.

MR. CHRIS D'AVELLA:

Aloha, Members of the Council. My name is Chris d'Avella, I am the Plant Collections Manager for Maui Nui Botanical Gardens. We wish to continue to expand our efforts to stand as a resource for the community and for conservation groups. We work to support community agriculture by acting as a year-round source of propagation material and horticultural advice, and by working with researchers to collect historical varieties of crops like taro, sugarcane, and banana.

We maintain over 150 rare Hawaiian heritage cultivars and endangered species. Over the past 12 months, we have distributed nearly 5,000 plants and other propagation material, over 3,000 of which were donated. These donations were made to over 55 community groups and individuals ranging from schools to ecological restoration projects.

In conjunction with our conservation partners, Maui Nui Botanical Gardens is working to save endangered species as well. We currently fund a full-time intern, storing Native Hawaiian seeds in accordance with scientific protocols. This allows us to achieve economic preservation of genetic diversity and buy valuable time for land managers to mitigate threats.

In closing, it is because of the funding made possible by this Committee and the leverage it provides, that we are able to continue to support local agriculture and ecology. Mahalo for your consideration.

CHAIR WHITE: Thanks for coming tonight.

DEPUTY COUNTY CLERK: Next testifier is Whit Germano, followed by Tamara Sherrill.

MR. WHIT GERMANO:

Aloha. My name is Whit Germano, I manage the programs and events at Maui Nui Botanical Gardens. I would like to state my support for continued funding for the gardens. We are an important education and community resource. Sixty schools and community groups were hosted by staff and volunteers last year in a variety of activities including guided tours, botanical painting and drawing, scavenger hunts, Hawaiian craft making and scientific studies.

We are a site for job training and have a large volunteer base, 588 volunteers contributed more than 4,800 hours of service to the gardens last year. And we're a field site for UH Maui College's Hawaiian Ethnobotany classes, Agricultural programs, as well as, Art and Photography classes.

We continue to educate visitors and residents about native plants and Hawaiian culture. In addition to our free annual community events, workshops held in 2016, included kapa and dye making, cordage and hala weaving, `apu `awa making, cooking with kalo and ulu, and la`au lapa`au or healing with Hawaiian medicinal plants. This year we'll be hosting follow-up classes on kapa and dye, growing and cooking with Hawaiian varieties of taro and possibly an imu class.

Mahalo for your continued support of Maui Nui Botanical Gardens.

DEPUTY COUNTY CLERK: Next testifier is Tamara Sherrill, followed by Jaelin Ishikawa.

MS. TAMARA SHERRILL:

Aloha mai, aloha mai kakou. Chair White, Councilmembers. I'm Tamara Sherrill, I'm Director of Maui Nui Botanical Gardens. I brought two products of our garden today, this is a Popoulu Huamoa, Mai'a or banana. And this is one of the 112 . . . varieties that we have there, about 20 old Hawaiian varieties of bananas remain. Don't know why chefs aren't picking up on this. You know this is a real heritage thing that we have in Maui that is unique to Hawaii.

And another product is a book that was written by a ten-year-old boy, Hamilton Kino. He is one of our, his favorite place to visit is Maui Nui Botanical Gardens. And he saves up his money from yard work to buy native plants. So he's saving money to make more work for himself, I don't know, but he loves native plants and he's quite a dear.

So, you know, this is a partnership that is a good investment for the County, for all the reasons that you've heard but we also save the County money by stewarding a County park property for about what I can tell, about a third of what it might cost the County to do through the Parks Department. And god bless the Parks Department, they are a wonderful partner to us.

But I was looking at the Mayor's proposed budget and the parks program budget which is for maintaining parks turf, and trees, and irrigation, and buildings. If they were to put the four full-time and one part-time people that we have towards the

same property, it could cost about \$500,000 a year annually. And by this logic, if you approve the line item grant for Maui Nui this year you would be saving the County about \$350,000.

So, you know, last year our grant with OED was leveraged by 153% by fundraising and from State and private grants. And as you heard, we also had quite a few volunteers, that was worth at least \$120,000 in their time.

And so we got a small botanical garden that has a widespread reach in the community and we grow native plants. We also grow more public support for environmental protection and farming in Maui as a unique tourist destination.

So, mahalo for listening to us tonight and we humbly ask for your continued support.

DEPUTY COUNTY CLERK: Next testifier is Jaelin Ishikawa, followed by Joylynn Paman.

MS. JAE LIN ISHIKAWA:

Good evening, Council. My name is Jaelin Ishikawa and I am a junior at Baldwin High School. I am 16 years old and I started playing golf at the age of six. Waiehu Golf Course has played such a significant role in my life, as where, this is where I started playing this wonderful game.

When I first started playing golf, I was, when I first started playing golf I was able to play my first competitive golf tournament at Waiehu Golf Course and this is where I discovered that golf was a very important factor of my life. By having this opportunity to play competitive golf, I was able to make friends all throughout Hawaii, but I would not have gotten here without the opportunity to play Maui Junior Golf Association that is based at Waiehu Golf Course.

After playing 10 years of golf, I feel like Waiehu Golf Course is like my second home. The community of golfers and workers at Waiehu Golf Course are just so supportive of all the junior golfers and they have led me to become the golfer that I am today. Without this golf course open, junior golf would not feel the same. Thank you.

CHAIR WHITE: Thank you for being here this evening.

DEPUTY COUNTY CLERK: Next testifier is Joylynn Paman, followed by Sam Small.

MS. JOYLYNN PAMAN:

Aloha, ahiahi kakou. My name is Joylynn Paman, I am speaking first on behalf of a non-profit, Boys and Girls Club, specifically for the Paukukalo Club as a parent and I just want to testify in support of their funding request.

As a Hawaiian Emersion parent, I am extremely pleased with the service that the club gives to our Hawaiian Emersion students from Paia School. I have two boys attending the program right now and they have staff that are able to speak in Hawaiian and they perpetuate the language in the afterschool program and they are also able to help assist my children with their homework. And so, that is extremely valuable in such a busy lifestyle that we have.

I also feel that they provide a very safe and active program where our children are running around for several hours a day, versus being at home and just watching TV. One of the extreme benefits that they also offer is that they provide Sylvan Learning Center, tutoring for my children. And it's just an extra push in their education, and it's free of charge for us this year and I'm extremely grateful for that. I feel like they have an excellent staff and management and they provide a very valuable and important contribution to our community.

Taking off that hat and putting on my other hat as President of Na Leo Pulama O Maui, it's a non-profit organization that supports Puna Na Leo O Maui, the Hawaiian Emersion preschool here in Wailuku across the street. I wanted to voice my support for Maui Nui Botanical Gardens. One of the main things that they provide for our non-profit is a venue for our Annual Ho'omau event, where it is a fundraiser for our school. And it allows us to bring 4,000 to 5,000 people in our Hawaiian Emersion community to celebrate the perpetuation of the Hawaiian language. It has a beautiful, natural Hawaiian environment and I really see the life that is brought to the place itself by having the Hawaiian culture be present as well. The garden is extremely great partner of our non-profit organization and they do a great job with perpetuating the culture.

So mahalo for your time this evening, I appreciate it. Aloha.

CHAIR WHITE: Thank you for coming, Ms. Paman.

DEPUTY COUNTY CLERK: Next testifier is Sam Small, followed by Christopher Fishkin.

MR. SAM SMALL:

I want to thank all the citizens for coming out to speak about what they see their communities need, and that deserve to be supported financially through this budget.

Clearly, there's not enough funds in the budget to satisfy everyone and I feel for the Council trying to pick and choose what to deny. But let's talk about why so, why money is so hard to come by here in Maui. I've testified before about the estimated \$137 million that the County could be entitled to from developers who deferred infrastructure improvements and the manipulations by Corporation Counsel that has hidden and continues to try and hide this money from this Council and from the public.

I submit to you that the shameful lack of accountability around deferral agreements is intentional and part of the way that corruption has crept into the very fabric of how things are done on Maui. Corruption that systematically shifts financial burdens away from developers onto the backs of Maui taxpayers.

I hear it all the time, "that's how it's done on Maui". But we deserve a government that works for us, not developers, engineers, lawyers, and politically appointed inept department directors whose job it seems is to find every opportunity to drain our tax dollars into the pockets of a privileged few.

Let's look at Palama Drive for a second. Mr. Hokama is pushing to auction it all off for a low-ball price to get back at least some money for the County. But the County owns that property because of a decision made by department director, Milton Arakawa and supported by Mayor Alan Arakawa. That decision was identified to be in violation of our County rules. Even after it was publicly shown to be in violation, they arrogantly persisted in building illegal too tall retaining walls, shifting value into a developer's hands by stealing it from surrounding homeowners.

It was a faulty decision and of course it ended up in court. But rather than acknowledge the County's mistake and settle with the lawsuit, Corporation Counsel inexplicably defended the faulty decision and lost, costing the County even more money. Millions of dollars that were wasted. Why is Corporation Counsel allowed to defend director's decisions that are clearly faulty?

Mr. Hokama made a big deal about how in this house, everyone plays by the rules. No, that is not what happens. Enough already. This community organized and began to mobilize in 2014 around the GMO moratorium and again in 2016 to support candidates who openly affirm the value of the public trust doctrine. And we voted for

a Charter revision to give this Council the right and means to get legal opinion that is independent--

CHAIR WHITE: Thank you, Mr. Small.

MR. SMALL: --of our self-serving manipulative Corporation Counsel. Go to NoMoreCorruptionMaui.com to join a petition to impeach Mayor Alan Arakawa and call for a Federal investigation of--

CHAIR WHITE: Okay your time is up, thank you very much.

MR. SMALL: --thank you very much.

DEPUTY COUNTY CLERK: Next testifier is Christopher Fishkin, followed by Mike Atherton.

MR. CHRISTOPHER FISKIN:

I'm coming before you today on behalf of No More Corruption Maui. I believe that we, the public have stood by and have allowed and watched our elected and appointed officials to get away with misusing public funds in defending unlawful administrative decisions as they continue to make false representations to the public and to this Honorable Council.

The Mayor, the Corporation Counsel Pat Wong, David Goode and William Spence are guilty of malfeasants, misfeasance, and nonfeasance, and continue to unlawfully incur financial obligations on the County in violation of County Charter Section 9-12 which costs are not reflected in this budget. This Council cannot continue to support their illegal activities of this Mayor and this Administration.

As I stand here today, this Administration in collusion with the Department of Corp Counsel is deliberately and arrogantly refusing to enforce shoreline management area permits which cover up the financial obligations of private developers in which cover up the fraud of the Mayor, Goode, Wong and Spence which can bring in significant revenue to this budget and this County.

This is not new, Palama Drive, Montana Beach, Olowalu, are three similar cases involving the same people which have cost the County millions of dollars, and unnecessary and unwarranted litigation while the Council sits on the sidelines. Meanwhile, this County is failing to assess and collect on developer agreements concealed by this Administration. Mr. Atay, Councilman Atay, courageously requested these agreements in Paia, at the hearing.

No More Corruption Maui has obtained letters of a hardworking Councilmember to Mr. Goode in 2012 which shows how Corp. Counsel and Mr. Goode have blocked all scrutiny, assessment, and collection of these agreements since 2012. The Council is presently spending money on defending these unlawful activities while the youth program needs support, a great percentage our youth needs rehab, well established organizations like MEO and our residents need housing. This is Maui's own Watergate, ladies and gentlemen.

This is a 2008 Maui Weekly "Where is Maui's Affordable Housing", this is 2008. Judge August ruled that the Mayor broke the law at Palama Drive, instead of an affordable housing plan, which was created, it was never used. Now like Mr. Small said, we're trying to sell it off at a \$2,000,000 loss, that's more of Section 9-12 incurring financial obligations by this Mayor on the County.

The time demands bold constructive action and so No More Corruption Maui will be launching its petition to impeach the Mayor, impeach the Mayor, Patrick Wong, David Goode, and William Spence pursuant to Article 13, Section 13-13 and has solicited the support of the Ohana Coalition and the Shaka Movement. Councilmembers are coming up for re-election and some of you may be running for Mayor. This Council must act boldly and decisively now to avoid complicity.

The Mayor has been using Corp. Counsel and his Deputies to sweep all their wrongdoing under the rug which now and with respect this Council has been tripping over. Its way past the time for a simple spring cleaning, it's time for a Maui uprising. Thank you for your time.

CHAIR WHITE: Thank you, Mr. Fishkin.

DEPUTY COUNTY CLERK: Next testifier is Mike Atherton, followed by Maria Vallejos.

MR. MIKE ATHERTON:

Thank you, Chair, Council. My name is Michael Atherton and I'm the owner of the Maui Tropical Plantation. And I'm here tonight to ask you to support the funding for the continuing design work for Waiale Road extension. And what Waiale Road extension does is it does provide an extremely large amount of future affordable housing for Central Maui and it does open up the 300 acre Central Maui Regional Park that belongs to the County. It does offer a future opportunity to build the Maui County Baseyard which would create a lot of jobs in Central Maui. So I again humbly ask you to support the funding for the extension of the Waiale Road. Thank you.

CHAIR WHITE: Thank you, Mr. Atherton.

DEPUTY COUNTY CLERK: Next testifier is Maria Vallejos, followed by Brian Scott.

MS. MARIA VALLEJOS:

(Spoke in Spanish.)

ENGLISH TRANSLATOR: Good evening, Members of the Council. My name is Maria Vallejos. I am a resident of the, I am a resident, I'm a legal permanent resident and I have lived in Maui since 2013.

MS. VALLEJOS: *(Spoke in Spanish.)*

ENGLISH TRANSLATOR: I am here to testify on behalf of MEO.

MS. VALLEJOS: *(Spoke in Spanish.)*

The importance the program has for me is, comes from the time that I first came to Maui and I was referred to the language exchange classes, where I received information.

MS. VALLEJOS: *(Spoke in Spanish.)*

ENGLISH TRANSLATOR: Information and guidance on how to introduce myself to the community.

MS. VALLEJOS: *(Spoke in Spanish.)*

ENGLISH TRANSLATOR: From that moment on, I received the help that I needed to get a job. I now have a full-time job.

MS. VALLEJOS: *(Spoke in Spanish.)*

ENGLISH TRANSLATOR: When I face challenges, the first place I call for help was MEO.

MS. VALLEJOS: *(Spoke in Spanish.)*

ENGLISH TRANSLATOR: I received the information, the guidance that I needed and today I am fine, and all with the help I received from them.

MS. VALLEJOS: *(Spoke in Spanish.)*

ENGLISH TRANSLATOR: Lastly, I received all the help that I needed to process my retirement funds in Argentina and all with the help of MEO.

MS. VALLEJOS: *(Spoke in Spanish.)*

ENGLISH TRANSLATOR: I just wanted to share the personal experience with you and tell you that the support that we get from MEO is very important for the Latino community.

MS. VALLEJOS: *(Spoke in Spanish.)*

ENGLISH TRANSLATOR: Can we ask you to continue to support the program which is a great need for us, and I am very thankful for the program and for you to listen to me tonight.

CHAIR WHITE: Thank you very much for being here.

MS. VALLEJOS: Thank you.

DEPUTY COUNTY CLERK: Next testifier is Brian Scott, followed by Mei-Ling Burrows.

MR. BRIAN SCOTT:

Aloha, Councilmembers, Chairperson White. I'm here to support Waiehu Golf Course. I just walked off the course about three and a half hours ago. I'm 66 years old, I walked, that's about five miles. I think you should consider the impact it has on seniors. It's a healthy outlet for us, as one woman said earlier, we'd be on the couch.

I'd like to point out that the State of North Carolina found it in their interest to start a program for all their county golf courses, there was no charge for senior citizens if they walked. They felt that it was in their monetary interest to preserve the health of their senior citizens. And I'm diabetic, I have lost the vision in my left eye and I still play golf, I still walk. And I see many others out there doing the same thing and I think it's very worthwhile to preserve the golf course. Thank you very much.

CHAIR WHITE: Thank you, Mr. Scott.

DEPUTY COUNTY CLERK: Next testifier is Mei-Ling Burrows, followed by Kimberly Kaawa.

MS. MEI-LING BURROWS:

Good evening, County. My name is Mei-Ling Burrows, you know, I just want to tell you guys thank you for supporting MEO Head Start.

My three sons have attended MEO Head Start, because we are in the poverty level, low income household and you know, I thank Jesus that, you know, my kids got, get to go to school instead of you know, paying for it. My kids have learned a lot in this school and I'm so thankful that, you know, DOE and MEO teachers they're working together with the students. My sons have learned a lot from them, a lot. And the environment is safety-wise.

They have like caseworkers. I was in need for a job and I was struggling financially wise and I knew at Head Start they have caseworkers that help you. They guide you so she, she had led, that's Evelyn, Evelyn is my caseworker and she had led me to MEO and you know, started referring me for the job training. And thank god, I got one job.

And you know it's illegal driving without a license, so my caseworker, she led me to Uncle Bishop that when help me pay for my fines and he took me like on practices, you know. I mean, they not only like guide you, they walk you to your accomplishment, MEO. So, I got my license, I'm driving legally.

And the next step, I think I when accomplish all my goals with my case worker, yeah, I did. And right now, we're just building a strong foundation for my family so that the next goal is with my caseworker, is getting, owning one house of our own. So yeah, thank you for funding MEO Head Start at MEO. Thank you.

CHAIR WHITE: Thank you very much, Mei-Ling.

DEPUTY COUNTY CLERK: Next testifier is Kimberly Kaawa, followed by Phrincess Constantino.

MS. KIMBERLY KAAWA:

Hello, I'm Kimberly Kaawa. I'm here to advocate for MEO Head Start also. They are an amazing program. They have helped my family tremendously. My son graduated from their preschool program and my middle child, my four-year-old, or five-year-old, she just turned five, so she will be attending kindergarten next year is in the program right now at Wailuku B.

The funding that you give MEO helps our families be able to go out, get jobs, be able to work while our kids are in school and not have to worry about paying for childcare, which would pretty much set most of us having to choose between a house or, you know, paying for childcare. Childcare is too expensive now days, and this is an amazing program that helps all the families who can't quite afford to pay for that childcare. They know their children are being taught by loving, amazing teachers and they don't, you know, we are allowed to go out and work and support our families. So we would just like to say thank you and again, if you can continue supporting them means a lot to the rest of the community.

CHAIR WHITE: Thank you, Kimberly.

DEPUTY COUNTY CLERK: Next testifier is Phrincess Constantino, followed by Brian Wittman.

MS. PHRINCESS CONSTANTINO:

Good evening, Councilmembers. My name is Phrincess Constantino and I am a junior at Maui High School. I am here this evening on behalf of Maui Economic Development Board, and I am a part of STEMworks Program at Maui High School, as well as, our Maui High Robotics Team. So in our STEMworks class we are able to come up with our own projects, as well as, learn and use the latest technology, such as drones and 3-D printing.

And, we are also able to go to Elementary Schools, as well as, Intermediate Schools and show them the different types of programs we have at Maui High.

And from Robotics I have learned leadership skills through, I learned leadership skills, as well as, I was given the opportunity to share our team work with other teams from all over the country, such as, Australia, Japan and all over the mainland.

And with these opportunities from MEDB and the STEMworks program, I'm able to participant in the STEM internship in the summer and participate in the STEM conference. And through the STEM conference I'm able to meet new people and learn new skills that I can use in the real world. And with these opportunities, I hope to join the workforce here in Hawaii in a STEM career. And I want to thank you and I hope you continue to support MEDB.

CHAIR WHITE: Thank you very much, Ms. Constantino.

DEPUTY COUNTY CLERK: Next testifier is Brian Wittman, followed by Heather Salmon.

MR. BRIAN WITTMAN:

Hello, Council White and, excuse me, Chairman White and Councilmembers. I was here, actually speaking to you last Tuesday in Pukalani. It's actually, I was in town so I decided to sit through another long meeting to add a tiny bit to my testimony.

It's very moving to hear the wonderful works that are done by all these people. I find it hard to leave, but I was thinking that each one of these programs besides being funded by the County is supported by the people that get up every day and go to work. And a lot of them work for fairly small wages, at least based on the corporate scale or the resort level scale.

And so to get to my point, we are a small community in Huelo that has a road that is barely passable. And it's kind of its, it feels like we're considered second class for that reason. But our community has very much first class people that go out, many them in the morning and work these very programs. And they need to be able to get out and join the community that they serve.

And specifically, I mentioned my partner who is a special ed teacher, she's at Iao School just down the street, takes her one hour. My next-door neighbor is also a special ed teacher at Makawao Elementary School. These are dedicated people. Another neighbor works for Child Protection Services. Another one is a devoted member of Sierra Club, researching a lot of issues that benefit all of us. So these are the people that will ride in to the center of the town to contribute their wonderful skills on the road that you are kind enough to fix for us after 30 years of neglect. Thank you so much, Aloha.

CHAIR WHITE: Thank you, Mr. Wittman.

DEPUTY COUNTY CLERK: Next testifier is Heather Salmon, followed by Beverly Salmon.

MS. HEATHER SALMON:

Aloha, Council Chair and Councilmembers. It's an honor to be here. I'm also a Door of Faith Church Street resident and I actually live right, adjacent to the Kaulanapueo Church. Our street has hundreds of people that travel it daily, but most interesting and significant is the Church is a historical landmark. And I can tell you personally, cause I live adjacent to it, that there is like fifty people that come a day to visit it.

And not only that, but the church itself is a Hawaiian church and, that I attend from time to time. And it has a small congregation who are a wealth of knowledge amongst themselves. And I go there to learn the Hawaiian language, to learn the history of the area, to ask questions, to learn about farming, and to learn about the land, the aina.

And I think that the kupuna there, who are getting elderly deserve to have a road that's passable. We just, you know, we have certain members of our community who go and fill the potholes but every rain that comes, the potholes are unearthed once again. And it makes it very difficult and these people come and it's very challenging for them to get around those areas. And I think that they deserve to be respected and be able to travel that road, which is a wealth of a cultural, really a beautiful cultural jewel for Maui and for this area.

And so another thing I would like to share, I'm also a farmer and a member of the Maui, the farmer's union. And I love Jenny Pell's idea of the co-op that she is like a mentor of ours, so that would really help us as farmers as well. And the, so many great things that are happening, I have god-children who attend Head Start and they know how to import news for them and their parents who are struggling trying to make a living here on Maui, to have that as a resource for them.

And, my last point is that, I'm really saddened to hear that the Earth Day did not receive the permit to have Earth Day on public lands. And that to me is a shame, we have Whale Day and we have so many people who care about the aina, surely we can figure out how to pull ourselves together to offer Earth Day that is not at a private venue for people that we can come together and celebrate and exchange ideas. So, thank you.

CHAIR WHITE: Thank you for sharing your thoughts this evening.

DEPUTY COUNTY CLERK: Next person to testify is Beverley Salmon, followed by Jomel Baysa.

MS. BEVERLEY SALMON:

Thank you, Chair White and Members of Council. My name is Beverley Salmon, I'm one of the seniors that likes to visit the area. I like to attend Kaulanapueo Church, but I'm finding it more and more intimidating as the road is getting more and more difficult to navigate and actually very, very dangerous particularly for elderly people.

I sat in your seats for 12 years, where I lived previously. I was a Municipal Councilor and I know I struggled many, many times with budget items, what, how to prioritize, what to include. But one thing I did learn was that repairs, particularly when they're deferred end up being much, much more costly in the long run. So, I do urge you to include the funding that's needed at this point to repair the road. Thank you.

CHAIR WHITE: Thank you, Ms. Salmon.

DEPUTY COUNTY CLERK: Next testifier is Jomel Baysa. Last call, Jomel Baysa.

Next person to testify is Derek Snyder, followed by Jorge Vargas.

MR. DEREK SNYDER:

Good evening, Council Chair White and good evening, Councilmembers. Thank you for your stamina, late into the evening. My name is Derek Snyder and I'm a faculty member at the University of Hawaii, Maui College, but I'm also here and here in particularly to represent Hui Malama, Maui Hui Malama. And the three words I want to raise tonight are transformation, support, and investment.

So as an educator, I think that the greatest possible transformation we can make in people's lives, particularly young people's lives is education. I see it as an educator every day and I think we have a particular opportunity and privilege on Maui to have a palpable impact on our community. I thank you so much for your service to our community.

And I also think that for Hui Malama, serves as a unique institution within our Maui County, particularly serving at risk youth. Helping them to find their pathways forward in life, be it education, be it workforce readiness, be it helping them to transform their

personal lives. I've been a longstanding Board member and the reason I volunteer at Hui Malama is because I believe in the power of this transformation. So I thank you for your support of Maui Hui Malama.

And the last one is investment, just thinking about where do we invest when there is so many wonderful programs and so many opportunities to invest our monies back into the community. But for me as an educator, there's no greater investment than our youth. No greater investment than helping them to transform their lives through education. It's a multi-faceted.

And the thing that Hui Malama does more than anything is that it addresses the whole student. So for a student to be set up for success, whether that's the next job opportunity or their first job opportunity or its education, even higher education for these individuals. It really takes addressing the whole student and Hui Malama allows that opportunity for them to be embraced and to establish a relationship and to set them up for success so when they do encounter a challenge in their next step of their lives that they have the persistence and perseverance to see it through. And Hui Malama does that for them.

So thank you so much for your time this evening and thank you for your continued support of Maui Hui Malama.

CHAIR WHITE: Thank you, Dr. Snyder.

DEPUTY COUNTY CLERK: Next testifier is Jorge Vargas, followed by Diana Rodriguez.

MR. JORGE VARGAS:

(Spoke in Spanish.)

ENGLISH TRANSLATOR: Good evening, ladies and gentlemen.

MR. VARGAS: *(Spoke in Spanish.)*

ENGLISH TRANSLATOR: That's how it is told in my country, my home country Guatemala and I came here in 1991.

MR. VARGAS: *(Spoke in Spanish.)*

ENGLISH TRANSLATOR: And thanks be to god, I'm now a legal permanent resident in Maui.

MR. VARGAS: *(Spoke in Spanish.)*

ENGLISH TRANSLATOR: And I've had many opportunities to interact with the Enlace Hispano who is a great help for us.

MR. VARGAS: *(Spoke in Spanish.)*

ENGLISH TRANSLATOR: Back in 1991, they help us find housing, clothing, and many other ways.

MR. VARGAS: *(Spoke in Spanish.)*

ENGLISH TRANSLATOR: That's why I want to experience my gratitude to MEO and Gladys Baisa who was a leader at the time.

MR. VARGAS: *(Spoke in Spanish.)*

ENGLISH TRANSLATOR: And my request tonight is for you to please continue to support the program which is a great need and a great help for us.

MR. VARGAS: *(Spoke in Spanish.)*

ENGLISH TRANSLATOR: If I have enough time I could tell you all my life story, but my time is limited so I again just want to remark the, I would appreciate your continued support to the program.

MR. VARGAS: *(Spoke in Spanish.)*

ENGLISH TRANSLATOR: As another witness said, I am myself also diabetic.

MR. VARGAS: *(Spoke in Spanish.)*

ENGLISH TRANSLATOR: And Enlace Hispano has been there to help me with the processing of all the paperwork.

MR. VARGAS: *(Spoke in Spanish.)*

ENGLISH TRANSLATOR: Thank you, I count with your support and may god bless you and guide you from now on.

CHAIR WHITE: Thank you, Mr. Vargas.

DEPUTY COUNTY CLERK: Next testifier is Diana Rodriguez, last call Diana Rodriguez.

Next testifier is Claudia Miriam Lara, followed by Myriam Tuttle.

MS. CLAUDIA MIRIAM LARA:

Good evening, Honorable Councilmembers, Honorable Chair. My name is Claudia Lara, I'm here to support Enlace Hispano as both somebody who currently works there and somebody who has benefitted from the program in the past.

My family first arrived to Maui ten years ago, during my freshman year of high school. My mom, who at the time was undocumented, was first referred to Enlace Hispano as a place that would help her familiarize herself with Maui and the available resources. During that time when we didn't have medical insurance, Enlace Hispano was of a huge help directing us in where to turn to affordable medical care.

Then in my sophomore year in high school, when my mom was forced to return to Mexico, Enlace Hispano assisted in connecting my family to lawyers and interpreters, I'm sorry, lawyers and interpreting letters of support from the community that advocated for my mom to return to the U.S. and be by our family's side.

The support Enlace Hispano and the community demonstrated during my mom's tremulous path towards what today is her residency, inspired me to become the first in my family to go to college, graduate, and come back to Maui to serve the community, not only the Latinos, but all under-represented all under-served here on Maui.

So at 23, I returned to Maui and I applied to work at Enlace Hispano. It wasn't however until my first day on the job that I realized just the tremendous impact that Enlace Hispano truly has on thousands of Latino families on Maui. Each year our small grants directs us to serve a minimum of 2,000 Latinos. This year in our third quarter, we have served 1,720 people meeting 86% of our annual goal in the areas of health, education, translation and interpretation, community resource awareness and children's education and activities.

With only one full-time and one part-time person, paid at a rate of \$14.45 an hour we humbly and professionally serve dozens of people each day. Today, working only

four hours, I'm part-time, I assisted birth certificate amendments, first generation college student who has undocumented parents figure out her way through FASA, because unfortunately she was really confused, she was like how do I put their socials in there, they don't have socials. And I told her don't let it limit you, you're a citizen, you can apply for FASA, so I helped her with that. I helped another student that is currently in college apply for a scholarship, she's here on spring break. I assisted, I'm so sorry, with letters of support for an undocumented father who is currently on the verge of being deported, full circle for myself.

And today was an easy day, but there are days when we have walk-ins that are in need of assistance with leaving their abusive partners, with filing reports for sexual assault, with connecting with substance abuse programs for the children who suffer from depression and turn to alcohol. We're the only program that for over 20 years has been serving this quickly growing population.

And I ran out of time, but we are at this point 11.2% of the population here on Maui according to the U.S. Census in 2015. And that is compared to 10.7% of completely Native Hawaiian and Polynesian people here in Hawaii, so we are a hyper-visible invisible group, and I just beg you folks to continue supporting this program, it is so vital, and it is the only thing available here.

CHAIR WHITE: I'll have to ask you to conclude.

MS. LARA: Thank you.

CHAIR WHITE: Thank you very much for your energetic presentation.

DEPUTY COUNTY CLERK: Next testifier is Myriam Tuttle, followed by Margery Tau'a.

MS. MYRIAM TUTTLE:

A woman falsely accused of a crime she didn't commit was arrested with a, with a 16-year-old who lived nearby serving as an interpreter. Even though our clients lack the command of the language and the stress made it worse, she was still taken into custody without a full understanding of her rights. A year later, her case was dismissed without prejudice. She's free, but she will never forget the trauma that she endured all through the process because of the lack of a qualified interpreter in Spanish.

In a different case, a forensic examiner very candidly shared with me that in over 20 years of experience never before he had a qualified interpreting, interpreter assisting him. That even in cases of rape, when some women had to bring their own kids to interpret what the doctors would ask and what the mom would answer.

Aloha, Councilmembers. My name is Myriam Tuttle and I'm a Hispano Program Specialist for MEO. I myself, I'm an immigrant and came to the states as a wife of a white Caucasian, that after 10 years of marriage threw me to the floor causing many bruises. Cornered, alone and afraid, and unaware of the law, I chose to forgive him instead of putting him in jail right away. Taking advantage of that, two weeks later he filed a TRO, depriving our girls then ages eight and five of their primary caretaker for the last six years of their lives.

A lot has happened over, ever since, today I stand before you a naturalized U.S. Citizen, a registered court interpreter, a trained medical interpreter, the member of the Board of the shelter, and I have the honor and the joy of helping people changing lives through MEO. It is not an easy job, you do have to be deeply connected to the culture and have lived their pain for you to connect with them and for them to trust you.

On behalf of all those, whose only voice is MEO Enlace and their only chance to connect through the resources that they need to have a life with dignity. Thank you very much for your continued support.

CHAIR WHITE: Thank you, Ms. Tuttle.

DEPUTY COUNTY CLERK: Next testifier is Margery Tau'a, followed by Mikel Gosney.

MS. MARGERY TAU'A:

Good evening. My name is Margery Tau'a and I'm here for my daughter on behalf of MEO Head Start. My daughter at an early age was diagnosed with a speech delay and that pretty much means that she's a high functioning special needs child. And what that means is that she's not needy enough to be in DOE's special ed, but she's not normal enough to be in a regular preschool.

And it was just by a miracle that we ended up in MEO Head Start, and I had never heard of it before. And so my daughter is placed into a situation where she's in a classroom with peers her own age and teachers that have helped her to prepare herself to start regular school. And now she's at a point where not only does she

know things that she needs to for kindergarten, but she loves to learn and she loves school.

And after we got into Head Start, I, I dove right in head first, sorry. And I started volunteering in the class and I realized that these are all at risk children. These are children that will literally fall through the cracks in the future, and they're taught how to learn and they're taught how to be successful in the classroom so they can repeat it again in the future.

And so, they go from being the kids who are going to need the programs in future to being the kids that will lead programs in the future. And this program is a blessing to so many people and families all over Maui.

I'm so sorry, it's just beautiful, and I'm just, after being in the classrooms, I've been able to be in five different classrooms and I've been able to create relationships with the children and see how they've grown where they've gone from a place where some of them couldn't even speak and now they're counting to thirty and singing their ABC's. Some of them are even reading before they get to kindergarten.

And this year I've been able to be on the administrative side where I'm a part of policy council and I've seen these administrators work themselves so hard and so thin, that it's remarkable that they do what they do.

And I thank you so much for your funding and I plead with you to consider the 3% increase that's required to not only make this program continue, but continue to be efficient in everything they do. So thank you for your time and good night.

CHAIR WHITE: Thank you for your testimony.

DEPUTY COUNTY CLERK: Next testifier is Mikel Gosney, last call.

Mr. Chair, there's no further individuals signed up to testify in the Council Chamber or at the District Offices.

CHAIR WHITE: Is there anyone in the Chambers who has not provided testimony and would like to do so?

Okay, we have two more. Please proceed to the lectern. State your name for the record, please.

MR. MIKEL GOSNEY:

Mikel Gosney. Greetings Council, Chairman White. I'm here to testify, I wasn't even going to do it, but I see the allocation of monies sometimes not really going towards the very people who are living here. One of the item lines was the Hawaiian Visitors Bureau, \$4.4 million being allocated in, in educating or advertising for people to come to this tinsel of paradise which for many people who actually live here it's not. And especially with the airport expanding, like more people are going to come here. People think of Hawaii and they think of paradise and its exploited for that, and then the culture is exploited. And so I think that in terms of what the money could be used for is, is for the communities who are here. Thank you.

CHAIR WHITE: Thank you for being here.

MR. GOSNEY: I would give a suggestion but I, I don't have one. But that's why you're here. So thanks.

CHAIR WHITE: You don't need to provide solutions, so. Thank you for being here this evening.

MR. WESLEY YOSHIOKA:

Hello, Council. I'm Wes Yoshioka, citizen of Maui, I live in Kahului on Maalo Street. Across the street from me is the County park. It's Lihikai School Park and Maalo Street is along the southern border of the park. There's a section of the park that's kind of a real problem to the neighborhood, you talking about a two football field long, about a 30-yard-wide section that's used for parking for the park users, it's used for picking up your kids after school and dropping them off in the morning.

It's well used, but this section is not paved and it's not irrigated either. There's no sprinkler system. So we catch dust, tremendously. I don't live in the worst part of it, but the guys that live really at the end of Maalo Street really gets it bad.

The kids in the school, especially on the southern part of the portables there, they really catch it bad too on windy days. You'll see clouds of sand and dust picked up and taken up through the neighborhoods, all the way up to Papa Avenue. So it is a real problem, it's been there for many decades and I worked with the Councilman Guzman's people, have encouraged me to come here and at least talk about the problem and see if, you know, you guys can come up with a solution. Anyways, that's my issue. Thank you very much.

CHAIR WHITE: Thank you for coming this evening.

Is there anyone else who wishes to testify this evening? Seeing none. Oh, did you raise your hand? Okay.

Seeing none, this public hearing is adjourned, oh, I'm sorry.

DEPUTY COUNTY CLERK: Mr. Chair, we have written testimony, if we can receive that into record.

CHAIR WHITE: Oh, yes, thank you.

Members, without objection we'll receive written testimony into the record.

MEMBERS VOICED NO OBJECTION.

THERE BEING NO OBJECTION, WRITTEN TESTIMONY
RECEIVED FROM THE FOLLOWING INDIVIDUALS WERE MADE
A PART OF THE RECORD OF THIS PUBLIC HEARING:

1. Phyllis Robinson, Hawaii Farmers Union United Maui Chapters;
2. Lloyd Ginoza;
3. Pam Gatfield;
4. Lehn Huff;
5. Jenny Pell, Hawaii Farmers Union United Haleakala Chapter;
6. Stan Franco, Face Maui Housing Committee;
7. Karen May Taroma;
8. Giel Marie Tolentino;
9. Tamara Sherrill, Maui Nui Botanical Gardens;
10. Dayton Nakanelua, United Public Workers;
11. Joshua Corpuz; and
12. Diana Rodrigues.

CHAIR WHITE: Thank you. So ordered and we'll close public testimony.

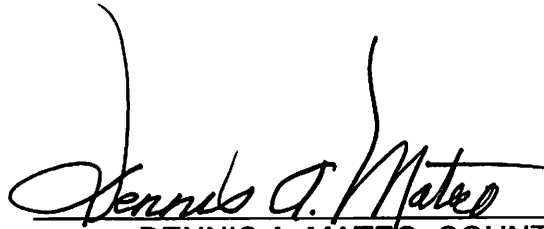
Anything else, Mr. Clerk?

DEPUTY COUNTY CLERK: No, Mr. Chair.

CHAIR WHITE: With that, we are adjourned.

ADJOURNMENT

The public hearing of *APRIL 18, 2017*, was adjourned by the Chair at 9:15 p.m.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Dennis A. Mateo", is written over a horizontal line. The signature is fluid and cursive.

DENNIS A. MATEO, COUNTY CLERK
COUNTY OF MAUI, STATE OF HAWAII



Hawaii Farmers Union United Maui Chapters



FY18 Program Support for the Farm Apprentice Mentoring Program (FAM)

Performance Period: Phase 1: November 1st , 2017 – June 30th - Phase 2: July 1st - December 31st , 2018

DRAFT REQUEST FROM COUNTY OF MAUI

Course Tuition for 10 Apprentices \$16,000 (Certificate of Professional Development UH-Maui College)

10 On-Farm Mentors = \$10,000

Program Coordination: \$35,760

Technical Assistance in HFUF Cooperative Development: \$10,000

10 Apprentice Start-up Stipends: \$2000@ at completion of program = \$20,000

Sub-Total: \$91,760

Indirect: \$9,176

Request from County Before Expansion: \$100,936

Expansion of Program to Hana and Moloka'i (could be partially paid for by Kamehameha Schools)

Administration: \$20,000

Course Tuition 10 students: \$16,000

10 Mentors: \$10,000

10 Apprentice Stipends: \$20,000

Sub-Total: \$66,000

10% Administrative Overhead: \$6,600

Request for Additional Funds from County for Expansion: \$72,600

TOTAL COUNTY REQUEST: \$173,536

ADDITIONAL MATCHING FUNDS PENDING

\$57,990 Kamehameha Schools (Pending) (For 5 Extra Apprentices: Course tuition, program coordination, Apprentice Stipends and In-direct)

\$25,000 Atherton Grant (Submission September) for additional funds for mentoring

\$40,000 Hawaii Department of Agriculture Specialty Crop Grant-Moringa Project Phase 2 (Pending)

Hawaii Farmers Union United Maui Chapters



**HAWAII
UNION**



**FARMERS
UNITED**

FARM APPRENTICE MENTORING PROGRAM (FAM)

*GROWING THE NEXT GENERATION
OF HAWAII FARMERS*

PHASE ONE: GROUNDING IN FARMING WHOLE SYSTEM BASICS-10 MODULES - 6 MONTHS	PHASE TWO: LAND BASED SUCCESS 6 MONTHS
<ul style="list-style-type: none">❖ SOIL HEALTH AND NUTRIENT CYCLING❖ IRRIGATION AND FOOD SAFETY❖ ORGANIC/SUSTAINABLE FARMING❖ DISEASE/PEST CONTROL❖ INTRODUCTION TO HAWAIIAN AHUPUA'A SYSTEM❖ KOREAN NATURAL FARMING (KNF)❖ BUSINESS, LAND AND CROP PLANNING❖ PERMACULTURE AND AGROFORESTRY <p>99 HOURS OF EXPERIENTIAL CLASSES 57 HOURS OF APPLIED METHODS THROUGH MENTOR-DRIVEN ON-THE-FARM ACTIVITY 2HOURS/BI-WEEKLY OF FORMATIVE EVALUATION REFLECTION <u>A CERTIFICATE OF PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT FROM UH-MC</u> COLLEGE OFFICE OF CONTINUING EDUCATION AND TRAINING</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">❖ AGRIBUSINESS PLANNING❖ AGRI-LOGIC: CROP INSURANCE AND COSTS OF PRODUCTION.❖ CROP INNOVATION❖ FINANCING❖ LAND LEASING❖ BUSINESS STRUCTURE/COOPERATIVES <p>IMMERSION IN HFUU 'ĀINA BASED FAM PROJECTS SUCH AS MORINGA SPECIALTY CROP, FOOD HUB PLANNING AND/OR ON ONE'S OWN FARM</p>

FAM CURRENT COMMUNITY COLLABORATIONS AND FUNDING:

- ❖ UH-MAUI COLLEGE, SUSTAINABLE LIVING INSTITUTE OF MAUI (SLIM)
- ❖ THE UH-MC FOOD INNOVATION CENTER
- ❖ KOHALA CENTER FOR COOPERATIVE BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT
- ❖ MAUI COUNTY OFFICE OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & HAWAII DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
- ❖ THE ATHERTON FAMILY FOUNDATION
- ❖ KAMEHAMEHA SCHOOLS ĀINA ULU AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT PROGRAM, THE LAHANIALUNA AND KAMEHAMEHA HIGH SCHOOL AGRICULTURE AND CULTURAL IMMERSION PROGRAMS.

IF YOU OR SOMEONE YOU KNOW WANT TO BECOME A FAM APPRENTICE, LEND SUPPORT OR BECOME A COMMUNITY COLLABORATOR:

CONTACT: FAM PROGRAM DIRECTOR, PHYLLIS ROBINSON PFIERROB@AOL.COM (808) 647-4066

**TESTIMONY FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 2018 BUDGET AT
THE MAUI COUNTY COUNCIL PUBLIC HEARING FOR APRIL 18, 2017**

Presented by Lloyd Ginoza

I wish to offer my comments on the proposed shut down or privatization of the Waiehu Golf Course (Waiehu).

The Maui Charter provides that cultural, recreational and other leisure activities be developed and implemented for the people of the county.

The Maui County Code (§13.16.040) established the Golf Course Special Fund for Waiehu and, as such, the funding shortages for Waiehu is highlighted and makes it easy to accuse golfers of not paying their fair share of user fees without recognizing that the proposed 2018 Budget for community parks, sports fields, skate parks, pools, tennis and basketball courts, and other activities is \$20.5 million with individuals using these facilities for free.

To be fair to the tax paying golfers, the funding of Waiehu should be evaluated as part of all the recreational facilities and activities of the County as a whole.

Supplemental funding for Waiehu is required; however, the amount of the required funding is overstated. The supplemental funding in the 2017 budget was \$2.8 million, which included \$1.2 million for administrative overhead, an arbitrary allocation of government overhead. Before the 2015 Budget, this charge was approximately \$300,000. As a comparison, the 2017 overhead expense for the Wailua Golf Course on Kauai was \$130,000.

The Maui County Code provides that the golf course proceeds shall be used for the OPERATION, MAINTENANCE, and TIMELY IMPROVEMENTS of the golf course with no mention of administrative overhead, so to include this administrative overhead charge in the golf course special fund may not comply with the Maui County Code.

The 2017 Budget for the Waiehu operating expenses, excluding equipment and administrative overhead, was \$2.6 million, which is reasonable when compared to \$2.3 million for the Wailua Golf Course on Kauai.

The green fees for Waiehu are comparable to the fees on Kauai and Hawaii Island; however, both Kauai and Hawaii Island allows for monthly fees for resident golfers. The Council should consider monthly fees, which would create incentives for golfers to increase the rounds played and increase revenue for Waiehu.

The Maui County Council authorized audits of Waiehu in 2008 and 2011. These audits were conducted by the United States Golf Association (USGA) with reports dated October 29, 2008 and January 17, 2012. One of the conclusions in these reports is that

improvements in Waiehu are needed before increasing the green fees, which means that the poor conditions result in less revenue.

Some improvements are being made at Waiehu; however, the recommendations in the USGA audits have not been implemented after 9 years. It is like going to the doctor for your ailments but decide not to take the prescribed medication and then complain that you are not getting better.

We ask the Council for fairness. Please restore the funding for Waiehu and require the Administration to present a plan with a timeline for implementation to improve the conditions and operations of Waiehu based on the recommendations of the USGA audits. Please consider including this requirement as a proviso to the Parks Program Administration Salaries.

County of Maui
Golf Course Operations Comparison

	Wailua GC							Waiehu Golf Course										
	FY 2017	FY 2017	FY 2016		FY 2015			FY 2014			FY 2013		FY 2012		FY 2011		FY 2010	
	Budget	Budget	Budget	Actual	Budget	Actual	%	Budget	Actual	Budget	Actual	Budget	Actual	Budget	Actual	Budget	Actual	
Revenue																		
Golf Fees																		
Maui Residents	-	245,000	245,000	-	294,000	239,070	31.1%	277,900	274,900	34.7%	325,500	330,120	40.2%	280,000	298,510	38.6%	385,000	
Maui Residents - Seniors	-	98,000	98,000	-	117,600	186,955	24.3%	111,160	194,203	24.5%	130,200	196,480	24.0%	112,000	177,788	23.0%	154,000	
Maui Residents - Students	-	14,000	14,000	-	16,800	10,440	1.4%	15,880	12,039	1.5%	18,600	13,810	1.7%	16,000	12,740	1.7%	22,000	
State Residents	-	56,000	56,000	-	67,200	96,125	12.5%	63,520	68,175	8.6%	74,400	11,900	1.5%	64,000	22,715	2.9%	88,000	
Tourists	-	280,000	280,000	-	336,000	227,425	29.6%	317,600	233,915	29.5%	372,000	254,810	31.1%	320,000	247,185	31.9%	440,000	
Military	-	-	-	-	-	860	0.1%	-	815	0.1%	-	650	0.1%	-	760	0.1%	-	
Tournaments	-	7,000	7,000	-	8,400	8,670	1.1%	7,940	7,930	1.0%	9,300	12,525	1.5%	8,000	13,965	1.8%	11,000	
Combined	1,032,400	-	-	854,905	-	-	0.0%	-	-	0.0%	-	-	0.0%	-	-	0.0%	-	
Others	-	-	-	10	-	184	0.0%	-	142	0.0%	-	217	0.0%	-	232	0.0%	-	
Total Golf Fees	1,032,400	700,000	700,000	854,915	840,000	769,729	100.0%	794,000	792,119	100.0%	930,000	820,512	100.0%	800,000	773,895	100.0%	1,100,000	
Concessions	181,200	302,412	302,412	308,412	302,412	366,696		289,212	295,200		289,212	295,545		349,212	331,700		340,000	
Rounding	-	-	-	-	-	-		-	-		-	-		-	-		-	
Total Revenue	1,213,600	1,002,412	1,002,412	1,163,327	1,142,412	1,136,425		1,083,212	1,087,319		1,219,212	1,116,057		1,149,212	1,105,595		1,440,000	
Appropriations																		
Salaries	954,245	972,452	935,280	883,135	900,889	855,556		870,133	854,502		870,133	845,540		882,301	792,663		846,645	
Operations	617,542	785,183	751,402	744,484	781,578	859,649		616,974	634,850		570,628	606,857		459,932	554,999		459,932	
Equipment	-	359,400	246,520	94,996	136,000	14,676		50,000	4,532		181,000	(28,597)		20,000	(27,318)		35,000	
Total Operating Expenses	1,571,787	2,117,035	1,933,202	1,722,615	1,818,467	1,729,881		1,537,107	1,493,884		1,621,761	1,423,800		1,362,233	1,320,344		1,341,577	
Employee and Bond Transfers GF																		
Retirement Benefits	226,407	231,550	226,783	207,813	211,625	195,142		186,340	186,340		186,340	179,070		189,096	117,322		181,020	
Health Benefits	151,320	162,226	160,358	149,636	154,228	144,517		220,000	214,211		220,000	209,977		223,064	196,867		213,098	
Post-Employment Benefits	186,449	90,647	123,373	123,373	145,203	145,203		135,516	135,516		135,516	135,516		137,561	126,410		132,063	
Debt Service	194,000	382,308	239,930	239,930	314,923	314,923		77,565	77,565		77,565	77,565		79,347	79,347		76,128	
Total Operating Appropriatio	2,329,963	2,983,766	2,683,646	2,443,367	2,644,446	2,529,666		2,156,528	2,107,516		2,241,182	2,025,928		1,991,301	1,840,290		1,943,886	
Revenue over (under) Appropriations	(1,116,363)	(1,981,354)	(1,681,234)	(1,280,040)	(1,502,034)	(1,393,241)		(1,073,316)	(1,020,197)		(1,021,970)	(909,871)		(842,089)	(734,695)		(503,886)	
General Fund Transfers																		
Carryover Savings from Prior Year	-	458,756	(149,289)		157,634			220,916		(3,271)				(1,224,964)			160,413	
Administrative Overhead charge	(130,000)	(1,244,733)	(1,219,104)	(1,143,006)	(1,200,244)	(1,093,010)		(274,250)	(274,250)		(300,993)	(300,993)		(328,085)	(328,085)		(325,690)	
Capital Projects Fund															199,987			
Supplement from General Fund	1,246,363	2,767,331	3,049,627	3,049,627	2,544,644	2,544,644		1,126,650	1,126,650		1,326,234	1,326,234		2,595,138	2,595,138		669,163	
Carryover Savings (Deficit)	-	-	-	626,581	-	58,393		-	(167,797)		-	115,370		200,000	1,732,345		-	
															(302,537)		(65,846)	

Golf Course Green Fees
Comparison of Municipal Golf Course Fees for Counties of Maui, Kauai, and Hawaii
Budget Year Ending June 30, 2017

	<u>Waiehu Golf Course</u>				<u>Wailua Municipal Golf Course</u>			<u>Hilo Municipal GC</u>	
	Monthly	Daily	Twilight	9 Holes	Monthly	Daily	9 Holes	Monthly*	Daily
WEEKDAYS									
Island Residents:									
Resident	-	\$ 13.00	\$ 10.00	\$ 5.00	-	\$ 15.00	\$ 7.50	-	\$ 15.00
Seniors - 60 and over	-	\$ 8.00	\$ 6.00	\$ 5.00	-	-	-	-	-
Seniors - 65 - 74	-	-	-	-	-	\$ 12.00	\$ 6.00	-	-
Super Seniors - Age 75 and over	-	-	-	-	-	\$ 9.00	\$ 4.50	-	-
Juniors 17 and under	-	-	-	-	-	\$ 1.00	\$ 0.50	-	-
Students of State of Hawaii 18 and under	-	\$ 2.00	\$ 2.00	\$ 2.00	-	-	-	-	-
Hawaii State ID Card	-	\$ 20.00	\$ 15.00	\$ 5.00	-	-	-	-	-
Military	-	\$ 13.00	\$ 10.00	\$ 5.00	-	-	-	-	-
Non-Resident									
November 1- April 30	-	\$ 50.00	\$ 40.00	\$ 20.00	-	\$ 48.00	\$ 24.00	-	\$ 35.00
May 1- October 31	-	\$ 40.00	\$ 30.00	\$ 20.00	-	\$ 48.00	\$ 24.00	-	\$ 35.00
WEEKENDS and HOLIDAYS									
Island Residents:									
Resident	-	\$ 18.00	\$ 10.00	\$ 5.00	-	\$ 20.00	\$ 10.00	-	\$ 20.00
Seniors - 60+	-	\$ 12.00	\$ 10.00	\$ 5.00	-	-	-	-	-
Seniors - 65 - 74	-	-	-	-	-	\$ 15.00	\$ 7.50	-	-
Super Seniors - Age 75+	-	-	-	-	-	\$ 13.00	\$ 6.50	-	-
Juniors 17 and under	-	-	-	-	-	\$ 1.00	\$ 0.50	-	-
Students of State of Hawaii 18 and under	-	\$ 3.00	\$ 3.00	\$ 3.00	-	-	-	-	-
Hawaii State ID Card	-	\$ 25.00	\$ 15.00	\$ 5.00	-	-	-	-	-
Military	-	\$ 18.00	\$ 10.00	\$ 5.00	-	-	-	-	-
Non-Resident									
November 1- April 30	-	\$ 55.00	\$ 45.00	\$ 25.00	-	\$ 60.00	\$ 30.00		\$ 40.00
May 1- October 31	-	\$ 45.00	\$ 35.00	\$ 25.00	-	\$ 60.00	\$ 30.00		\$ 40.00
MONTHLY CARD									
Island Residents:									
Resident	-				\$ 60.00			\$ 55.00	
Seniors - 60 and over	-				-			\$ 35.00	
Seniors - 65 - 74	-				\$ 40.00			-	
Super Seniors - Age 75 and over	-				\$ 26.00			-	
Juniors 17 and under					\$ 9.00			\$ 25.00	
Students of State of Hawaii 18 and under	\$ 20.00							-	
Non- Resident:									
5 Round Card - 3 mo expiration	-				\$ 215.00			-	

>1:00 PM >3:00 PM
<3:00 PM

am/pm

* PLUS:
\$1/round weekday
\$3/round weekend

Pam Gattfield
298-
0555

Chronic Kidney Disease and Kidney Failure in Maui Nui

Background of Kidney Disease and Kidney Failure

- Chronic Kidney Disease (CKD) has 5 stages. End Stage Renal Disease (ESRD) is Stage 5 of the disease which has progressed to kidney failure.
- In kidney failure, the kidneys are no longer able to filter a person's blood and remove excess fluid from their body.
- The patient suffering from ESRD needs to either begin dialysis therapy to replace the function of the kidneys, or receive a kidney transplant in order to sustain life.

Risk Factors and Implications for Maui County

- Main risk factors for CKD and ESRD include diabetes, hypertension (high blood pressure), and genetics
- National Kidney Foundation (NKF) estimates that 1 in 10 U.S. adults (20 million people) over the age of 20 have some form of kidney disease.
- NKF of Hawai'i estimates that 1 in 7 adults over age 20 have some form of CKD in the State of Hawai'i.
- For those of Native Hawaiian, Filipino, Japanese, Pacific Islander, and Hispanic/Latino descent, there is an increased risk for these populations to suffer from diabetes, hypertension, and kidney disease. Please see attachments regarding these populations.

Increasing Need for Transportation Services for the Dialysis Community in Maui County

- Diabetes and hypertension increase the risk that our Maui County dialysis patients will have other medical issues such as blindness, amputations, and stroke or heart attack. These disease states, or comorbidities, severely impact a dialysis patient's ability to safely drive themselves to and from dialysis treatment and/or other medical appointments.
- Maui Economic Opportunity (MEO) Transportation provides service to 43% of our hemodialysis patients coming to treatment at our Rainbow Lahaina Clinic, and 45% of our hemodialysis patients coming to treatment at our Rainbow Wailuku Clinic.
- Our Rainbow Clinics increased the number patients we treat by 43% between March 2016 and March 2017. This is reflective of the growing number of patients suffering from ESRD/kidney failure here in Maui County.

Risks for CKD in Asian Americans

"Asian Americans are twice as likely to develop kidney failure as Caucasian Americans."

In the United States, kidney disease occurs more frequently in racial and ethnic minority groups than in the general population. Asian Americans are twice as likely to develop kidney failure as Caucasian Americans.

Diabetes is Often the Culprit

Diabetes is the leading cause of kidney disease, representing about 43% of all new cases each year. Diabetes damages the blood vessels of the kidneys, sometimes to the point where the kidneys can no longer clean the blood. People with diabetes are the fastest-growing group of kidney dialysis patients and transplant recipients.

There are two types of diabetes. Type 1 is when the pancreas does not make insulin. It is typically diagnosed in young children. Type 2 is when the body is resistant to insulin. This used to occur mostly in adults; however, more children are being diagnosed with type 2 due to being overweight and not getting enough exercise. It is difficult to say how many Asian Americans currently have type 2 diabetes. Research has shown that type 2 diabetes is a growing problem for this population group. Diabetes is the fifth leading cause of death for Asian Americans in the 45 to 64 age range.

Traditional Ways Were Healthier

Asians who have immigrated to the United States and adopted an American diet are at greater risk for diabetes. Studies have shown that the traditional plant- and fish-based Asian diet has been replaced with a diet higher in calories and fat, and lower in fiber. Research comparing Japanese who live in Japan to Japanese who live in Hawaii showed that the Hawaiian Japanese had a higher rate of obesity and double the rate of type 2 diabetes.

Exercise—or the lack of it—is another factor in diabetes control. In the past, physical labor was a part of many Asians' everyday lifestyle. Today, most Asian Americans' daily activities require little or no physical exertion.

Lifestyle Changes to Reduce Risk

Risk factors for diabetes are linked to both genetics and lifestyle. While our genes have already been decided, steps can be taken to live a healthier lifestyle. A good place to start is to maintain a healthy weight.

Page 1 of 3



"If the diagnosis is made earlier and if kidney disease is treated earlier, some of the complications of chronic kidney disease can be prevented."

Risks for CKD in Asian Americans

Being overweight is a significant risk factor for diabetes. In addition, where a person carries the extra weight on their body is important. Those who carry extra weight on their midsection or upper body area are at a higher risk of developing type 2 diabetes. A study sponsored by the National Institutes of Health (NIH) found that diet and exercise could lower the risk of developing type 2 diabetes. One study group who did moderate exercise 30 minutes per day and ate a healthier diet were able to reduce their risk of getting type 2 diabetes by 58%.

Testing is Key to Early Diagnosis and Treatment

The National Kidney Foundation (NKF) has issued guidelines for those at high risk for chronic kidney disease. This group includes Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders. Also at risk are people with: diabetes, high blood pressure or a family history of high blood pressure, older Americans, African Americans, American Indians and Hispanic Americans. Andrew Levey, Chief, Division of Nephrology of Tufts-New England Medical Center and chairman of the group who developed the guidelines, said, "We now realize that earlier stages of the disease are much more common than previously thought. If the diagnosis is made earlier and if kidney disease is treated earlier, some of the complications of chronic kidney disease can be prevented, including the progression to kidney failure and the development of heart disease."

Those who fit into a high-risk group should ask their doctor to perform these three tests:

1. A blood pressure check
2. An estimate of glomerular filtration rate (GFR), which measures kidney function
3. A dipstick test for protein in the urine

If test results show signs of kidney disease, the doctor will monitor the patient and, if needed, prescribe medication. The doctor may also give the patient a special diet to follow and recommend other lifestyle changes. Make sure you get tested regularly by your physician and send this article to your friends and family members to remind them. This is an opportunity for Asian Americans to learn about the high risks of diabetes and CKD, so the trend can be reversed.



Risks for CKD in Asian Americans

"As of July 2001, the estimated number of Asian Americans was 12.5 million, or 4.4% of the total US population."

Asian American Population Statistics

- As of July 2001, the estimated number of Asian Americans was 12.5 million, or 4.4% of the total U.S. population. This group is growing rapidly—more than three times the growth rate of the entire U.S. population.
- As of July 2001, the estimated number of Americans who say they are native Hawaiian and other Pacific Islander numbered more than 935,000.
- The states with the largest number of Asian Americans are California with 4.2 million (the largest number), New York, Hawaii, Texas and New Jersey. Hawaii is home to the largest number of native Hawaiians and other Pacific Islanders.

If you would like to see a doctor who specializes in the care of kidneys, called a nephrologist, you can use DaVita's Find a Kidney Doctor tool (www.davita.com/find-a-kidney-doctor/) to locate a nephrologist in your area.

Sources

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- Carter JS, Pugh JA, Monterrosa A. Non-insulin-dependent diabetes mellitus in minorities in the United States. *Annals of Internal Medicine*. 1996; 125(3):221-232.
- Huang B, Rodriguez BL, Burchfiel CM, Chyou P, Curb JD, Yano K. Acculturation and prevalence of diabetes among Japanese-American men in Hawaii. *American Journal of Epidemiology*. 1996; 144(7): 674-681.
- Diabetes Prevention Program Research Group. Reduction in the incidence of type 2 diabetes with lifestyle intervention or metformin. *New England Journal of Medicine*. 2002; 346: 393-403.



**"Unfortunately,
one in three
Hispanic
Americans with
diabetes doesn't
know they have
the disease."**

Risks for CKD in Hispanic Americans

Hispanic Americans represent 12.5% of the U.S. population, the second largest minority group in the United States and the fastest growing. Whether from Cuba, Mexico, Puerto Rico, South America, Central America or another Spanish-speaking country, the Hispanic American culture enriches the United States with a special blend of food, fashion, music, movies and literature.

Health Concerns of Hispanic Americans

In addition to sharing language and a rich culture, Hispanic Americans from around the globe have a tendency to develop certain health issues. In general, Hispanic Americans may be at a higher risk for developing certain illnesses. This could be because Hispanic Americans may not have health insurance or get preventative care, and there are language or cultural barriers.

Even within the entire Hispanic American community, there are regional health risk differences. For example, Mexican Americans have a higher rate of diabetes, while Puerto Rican Americans are more likely to have asthma, HIV/AIDS and a higher percentage of infant deaths. To help lower the risk of getting chronic kidney disease, let's take a look at what the risks are and how to prevent them.

Diabetes Leads to Increased Risks for Kidney Disease

Hispanic Americans should become more aware of diabetes and chronic kidney disease (CKD). A recent study by the American Heart Association stated that the risk for a Hispanic American adult to develop type 2 diabetes is nearly twice as high as a non-Hispanic white American adult.

After age 50, diabetes is even more of a threat. In 2000, diabetes was the third cause of death for Hispanics aged 55 to 74. Unfortunately, one in three Hispanic Americans with diabetes doesn't know they have the disease. Because diabetes is the number one cause of chronic kidney disease and can lead to other serious health problems, everyone should be tested.

An inactive lifestyle may increase the risk for developing high blood pressure and obesity, both of which may lead to diabetes, chronic kidney disease and other illnesses. One study showed that 65% of Mexican American men and 74% of Mexican American women got little or no leisure-time physical activity.



"Also, all Hispanic American cultures have a lower than average rate of stroke, heart attack and the top forms of cancer."

Risks for CKD in Hispanic Americans

In another study, 52% of Hispanic Americans with high blood pressure were taking no blood pressure medication.

Teaching the importance of more activity, better diet and regular doctor visits may help lower the occurrence of these illnesses.

Other Risks for Chronic Kidney Disease

Chronic kidney disease (CKD) is a serious health problem for Hispanic Americans. Eleven percent of all new CKD patients are Hispanic Americans. The top four causes of CKD are diabetes (primarily, type 2 or adult onset), high blood pressure, glomerulonephritis (kidney diseases caused by inflammation of the kidney) and polycystic kidney disease (an inherited condition). In Hispanic Americans, AIDS is also a major cause of CKD. Although, Hispanic Americans make up 13% of the U.S. population, they account for 20% of those diagnosed with AIDS. More information about the causes of HIV/AIDS and how to prevent it, such as using condoms, may help lower this number.

Health Benefits for Hispanic Americans

While Hispanic Americans are at greater risk for certain diseases, such as kidney disease, Mexican Americans, in particular, who are diagnosed with kidney failure do better on dialysis than many others. One report stated that Mexican Americans lived longer on kidney dialysis than non-Hispanic white Americans.

Also, all Hispanic American cultures have a lower than average rate of stroke, heart attack and the top forms of cancer.

Focusing on healthy habits—especially ones that lower the risk of diabetes and AIDS—may lead to fewer cases of chronic kidney disease in the Hispanic American population. Visiting a doctor on a regular basis and asking for diabetes, blood pressure and kidney function tests may help find health problems early, allowing time to help prevent or delay chronic kidney disease.



Risks for CKD in Hispanic Americans

"Among all Hispanic Americans with diabetes, about 1/3 are undiagnosed."

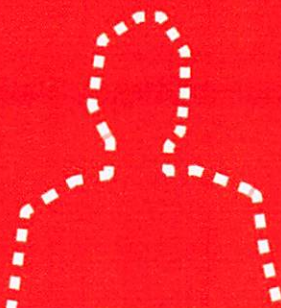
Statistics Regarding Hispanic Americans

- Among patients with diabetes, Mexican Americans are 4.5 to 6.6 times more likely to develop CKD than non-Hispanic white Americans.
- Studies of Hispanic Americans have shown a higher incidence of diabetes complications, including kidney and eye disease, compared to non-Hispanic white Americans.
- Type 2 diabetes, long thought of as an adult disease, is on the rise as a health problem among Hispanic American children and adolescents.
- Among all Hispanic Americans with diabetes, about 1/3 are undiagnosed.
- Risk factors for diabetes—including obesity, physical inactivity, a family history of diabetes, diabetes during pregnancy, impaired glucose tolerance and insulin resistance—appear to be more common among Hispanic Americans than non-Hispanic Americans.
- Among Hispanic Americans age 50 or older, the percentage of diabetics rises to about 25% to 30%, including diagnosed and undiagnosed.
- Mexican American women have higher incidences of diabetes during pregnancy than non-Hispanic white American women.
- The vast majority of Hispanic Americans with diabetes (about 90% to 95%) have type 2 diabetes. This statistic is true of the general US population as well.
- Among Mexican American and Puerto Rican American adults, diabetes is twice as common as in non-Hispanic white adults.
- Hispanic Americans are twice as likely to die from diabetes as non-Hispanic white Americans.

If you would like to see a doctor who specializes in the care of kidneys, called a nephrologist, you can use DaVita's Find a Kidney Doctor tool (www.davita.com/find-a-kidney-doctor/) to locate a nephrologist in your area.

Are you the 1 in 3 at risk for kidney disease?

Are you?
Native Hawaiian
Pacific Islander
Filipino
Japanese



FREE Kidney Health Screening

**Join us in celebration of
Da Kidney Da Kine Day!
Saturday, April 15, 2017
10:00am to 2:00 pm**

Location:

**Queen Kaahumanu Center 274
W. Kaahumanu Ave, Kahului**



DID YOU KNOW!?
High Blood Pressure &
Diabetes are the leading
causes of Kidney Disease!

**For anyone 18 and older * Recommend
Fasting for at least 8 hours**

SERVICES PROVIDED INCLUDE:

- ♦ Height, weight, blood pressure and cardiac rhythm
- ♦ Blood draw for comprehensive review of A1c (glucose), lipids and GFR (kidney function).
- ♦ Urine sample to further assess kidney function
- ♦ Consultation with a Clinician
- ♦ Education classes, Sign up for follow up workshops

SAVE YOUR SPOT TODAY!

Limited Space!
Call Melissa Guzman at
808-589-5903 or at
Melissa@kidneyhi.org

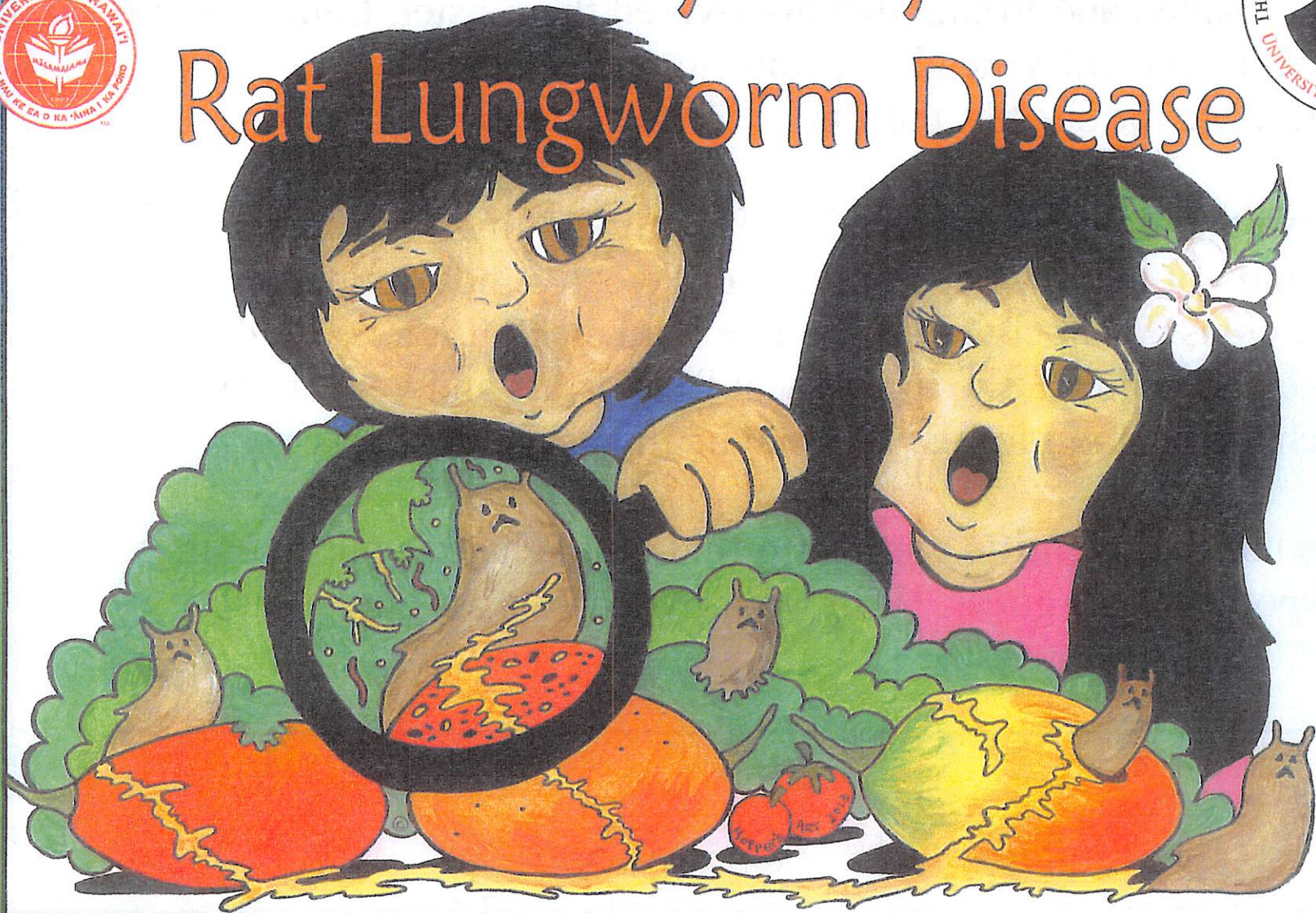


National
Kidney
Foundation® of
Hawaii

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The Mystery of Rat Lungworm Disease

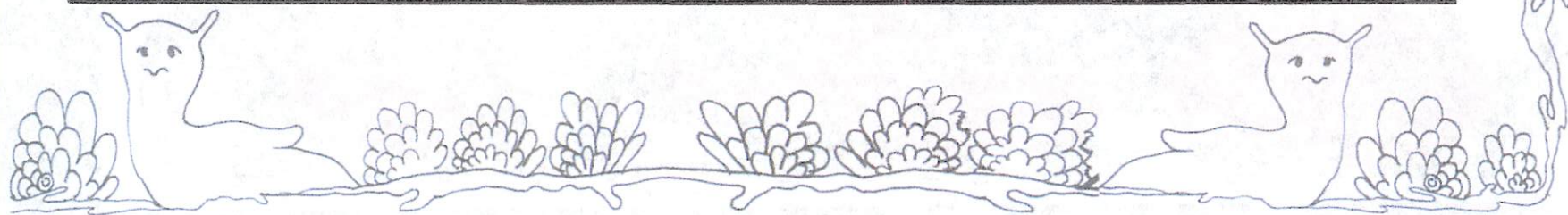


Name: *John Huff* MSGN

Oh no! Kaleo and Emma just discovered their sister, Lani, is sick! She woke up with a headache and stomachache. She is too sick to play. Maybe she has the flu?

But wait! Lani lives in Hawai'i. This illness might be something else and not the flu. Let's put on our detective hats and investigate some clues. What could have made Lani sick? Lani is usually active and healthy. She likes to eat fresh fruits and vegetables, which are so good for us. But maybe this is a clue...

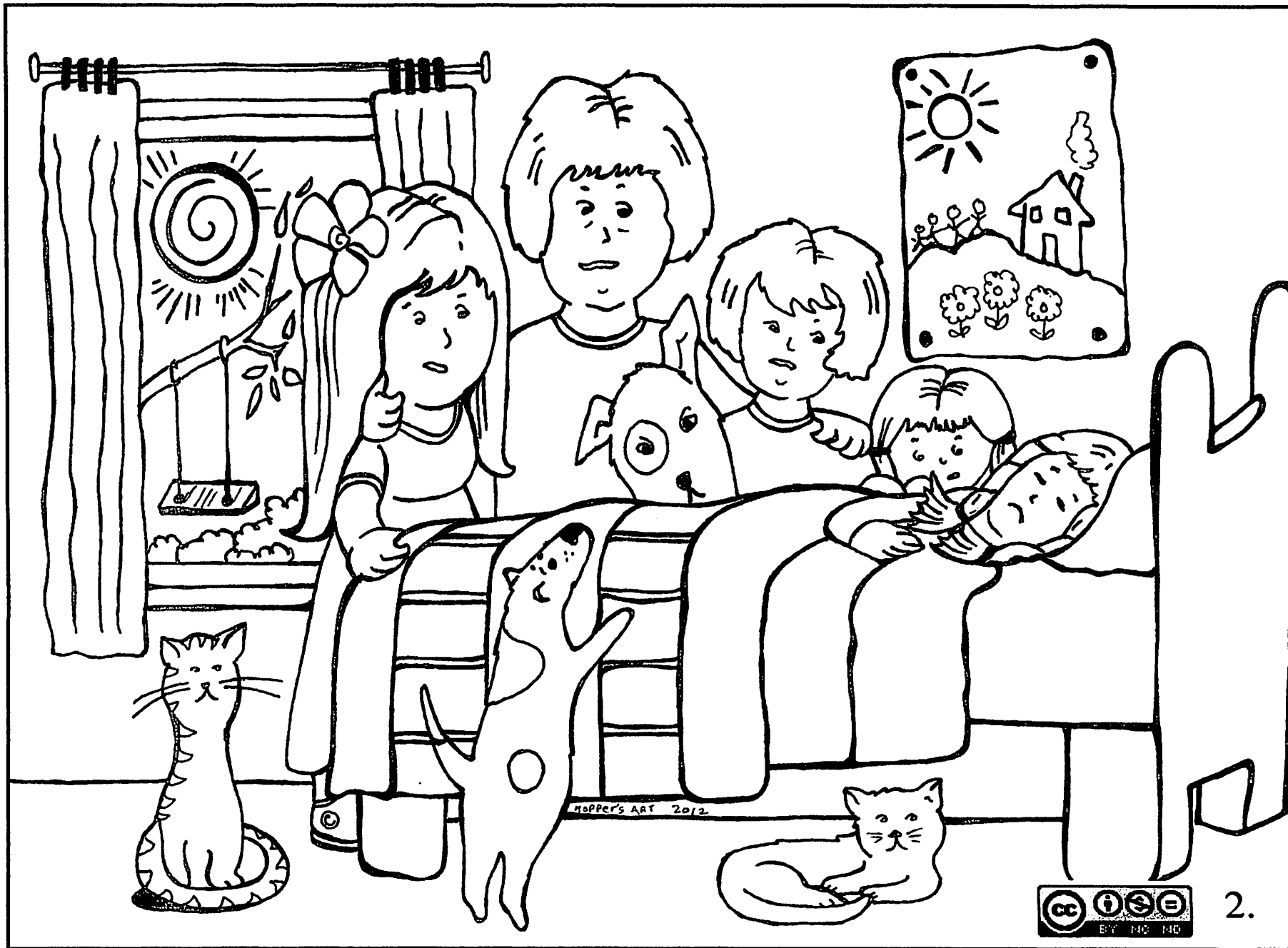
Let's use the scientific method to find out. What is your hypothesis? A hypothesis is a guess. Write your hypothesis, or guess, below.



SC.2.1.1. Scientific Inquiry: Develop predictions based on observations



1.



Clue #1: Rats... eek!

Lani's sickness reminds me of something I have heard of before. I wonder if there are rats living nearby Lani's home? Here are some facts to consider. Rats carry diseases (parasites, fleas, worms, and germs). Rats live in Hawai'i and are pests.

Meet "Pooper" a black furry rat found everywhere on the islands.

(Scientific name: *Rattus rattus*)

Fast facts: Rats are mammals.

Can you name another mammal?

Rats have affected Hawai'i's birds.

Can you say why?



Find the hidden words !

FACT

RATS

SICK

GERMS

NATIVE

E G R D M S E

F S W A M Z V

A R A R T U I

C G E E G S T

T G U Q S F A

S I C K Y I N

T S E P J M D



Clue #2: Slugs, snails and all things slimy.

Meet “Slimo” the slug! Slugs and snails live in moist, leafy *habitats* in Hawai`i - especially in the *ecosystems* on the wet sides of islands. Like the rats, most of the slugs and snails we see are introduced species that came from far away. Most of them came here by accident, hitchhiking a ride on plants. Slugs are garden pests, they eat fruits and vegetables. Slugs are also decomposers, they eat dead leaves...and they especially love eating rat feces! Slugs and snails carry *parasites* just as rats do. One *parasite* they can carry is a tiny worm called “rat lungworm.”

Fast fact: A parasite is any living thing that lives on or in another living thing while stealing nutrients from its host.

Slugs and snails do not have backbones.





2. These grow in the garden

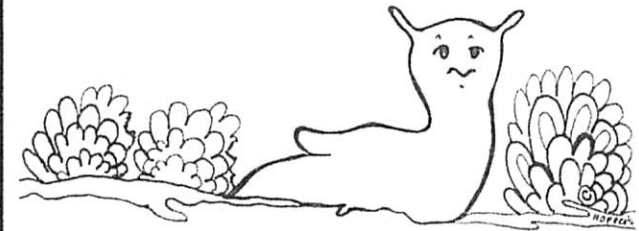
3. Slugs and snails love to eat this

5. The place where vegetables grow

3	E			4
---	---	--	--	---

1. A tiny worm is one of these

4. A garden pest

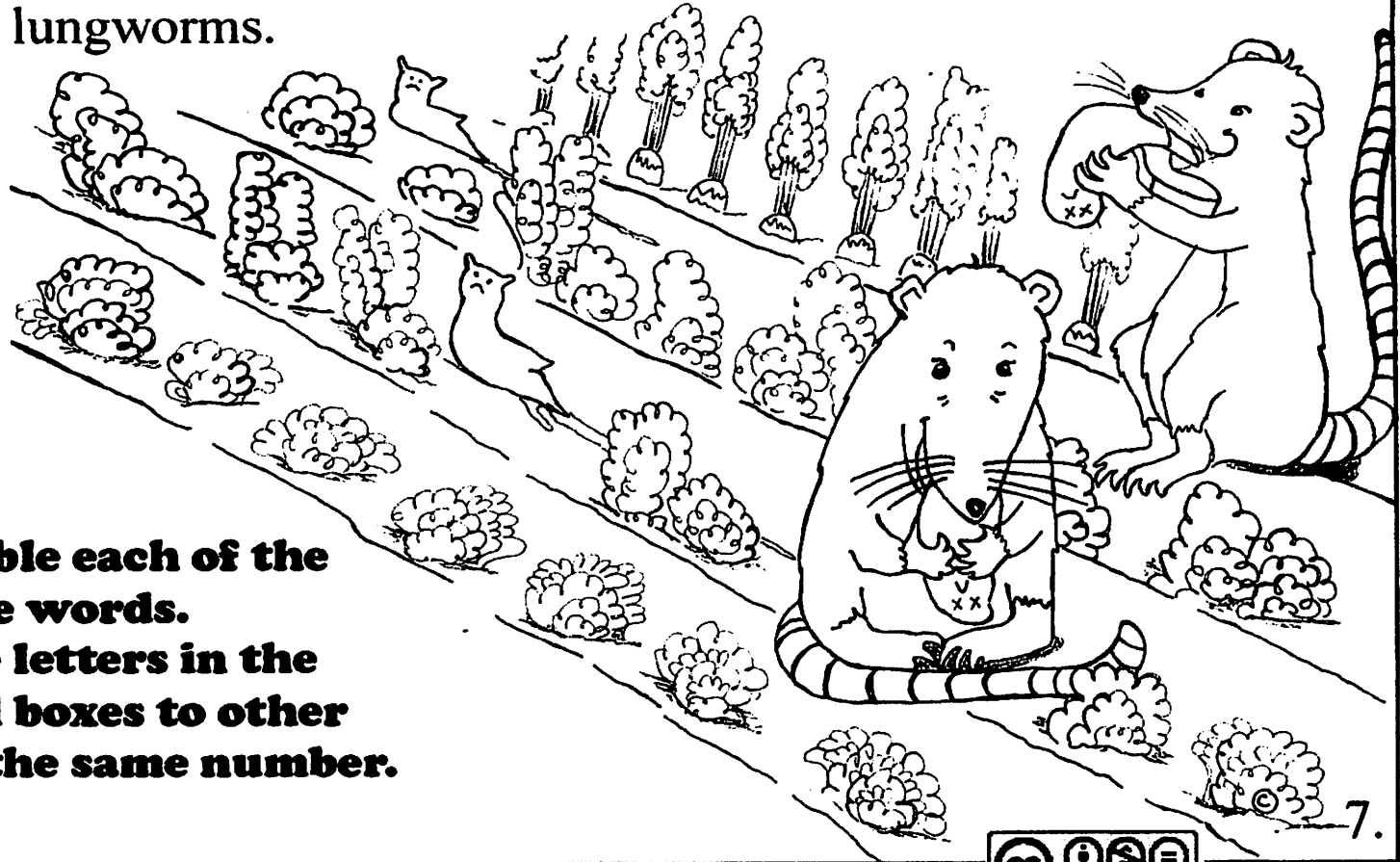


⁵ G					
----------------	--	--	--	--	--

Key : feces, garden, parasite, slug, vegetables

Clue #3: Fine dining - rats eat slugs and snails.

Most native snails of Hawai'i are *extinct* or *endangered species* because rats eat them. The Hawaiian Islands once had many species of snails found nowhere else. Now we have slugs and snails from many places outside of Hawai'i, such as China, Cuba, and Africa. These slugs and snails can be infected with thousands of tiny, parasitic, rat lungworms.



**Unscramble each of the
clue words.
Copy the letters in the
numbered boxes to other
boxes with the same number.**

TRA

	A	
--	---	--

1 9 7

SLGU

			G
--	--	--	---

10 5 12 13

LINAS

	N			
--	---	--	--	--

14 2 11

PETS

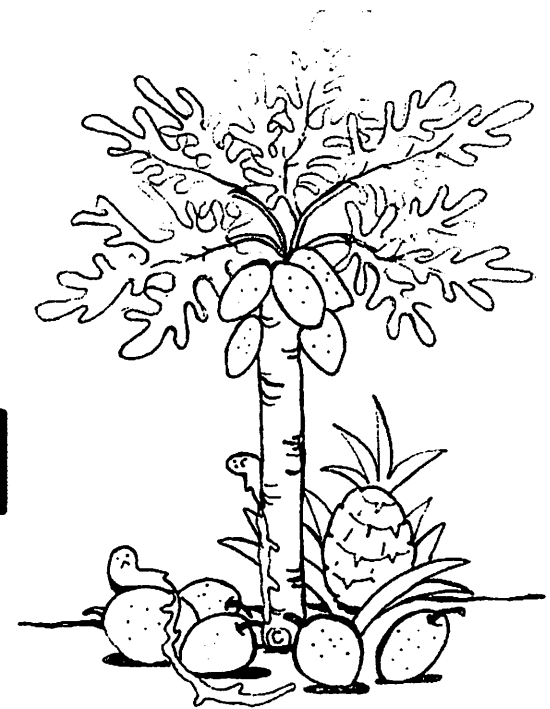
		S	
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6 3

PISSECE

	P			I		
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8 4



--	--	--	--

1 2 3 4

	O	V	
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5 6

	O
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7

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8 9 3

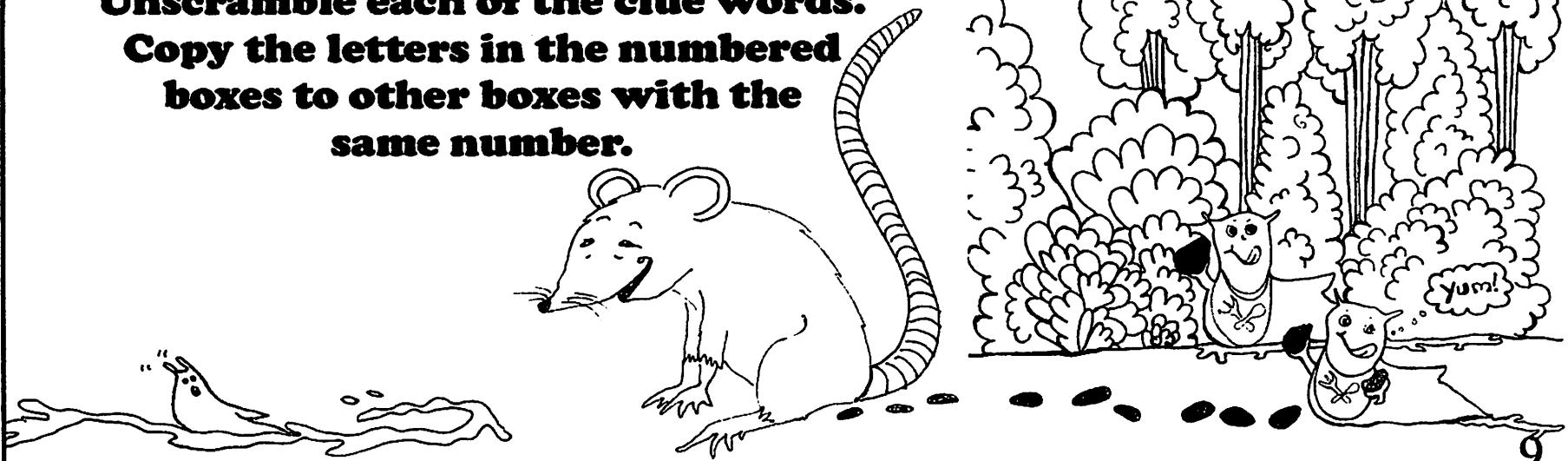
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10 11 12 13 14

Clue #4: The trail of feces leads to...

How did the slugs and snails become infected with rat lungworms? This *lifecycle* involves two *hosts*: the rat, and slugs or snails. The little rat lungworm begins and ends its life inside the rat. It spends the middle of its life living inside slugs or snails. How does the rat lungworm move from the rat to the other host? By none other than rat feces! We have learned snails and slugs LOVE to eat rat feces! Mmm, mmm, mmm yummy! Let's take a look at this *lifecycle*.

Unscramble each of the clue words.
Copy the letters in the numbered boxes to other boxes with the same number.



HOTS

H			
9	1	11	



PATSEARI

	A		A				
4	14	6	5	7	13	10	



ILEF CYLEC

	I		
2		15	12

		C		
		17	8	16

CEFSE

		C		
18			3	



		U	G	
1	2		3	

	N	D
4		

	N				
5	6	7	8	1	

		V	
8	9	10	

11	9

12	4	13

14	4	11

15	16	17	18	3

10.

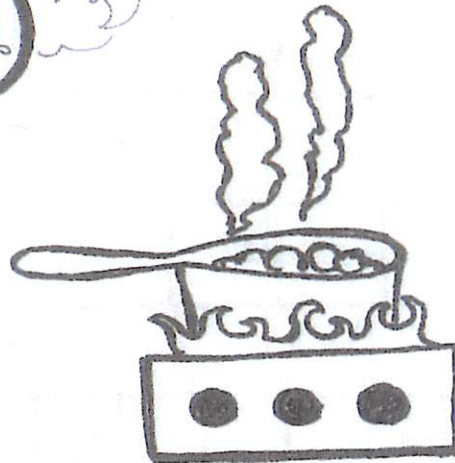
Rat lungworm life cycle ... what comes around goes around!

Welcome to the microscopic world, the world of the very small.

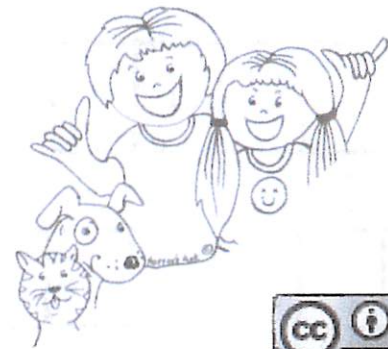
That which we cannot see might sometimes hurt us unless we know how to avoid the problem.



**check
&
clean**



cooked = safe



Fast fact: Cooking food kills parasites.



If You're Healthy and You Know It

(to the tune of "If You're Happy and You Know It")

If you're *happy* and you know it, clap your hands!

(CLAP ! CLAP !)

If you're *healthy* and you know it, wash your hands!

(WASH ! WASH !)

(CHORUS)

If you wash your fruits & veggies,

And they're clean and good to eat,

Then you're really living healthy hand-in-hand!

(Join hands, SHAKE, SHAKE !)

If you're *hungry* and you know it, rub your belly!

(RUB ! RUB !)

If you're *smart* and you know it, wash your veggies!

(WASH ! WASH !)

(repeat chorus)

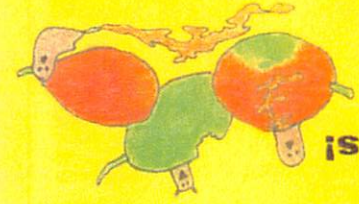
If you're *happy* and you know it, clap your hands!

(CLAP ! CLAP !)

If you're *healthy* and you know it, wiggle your hips!

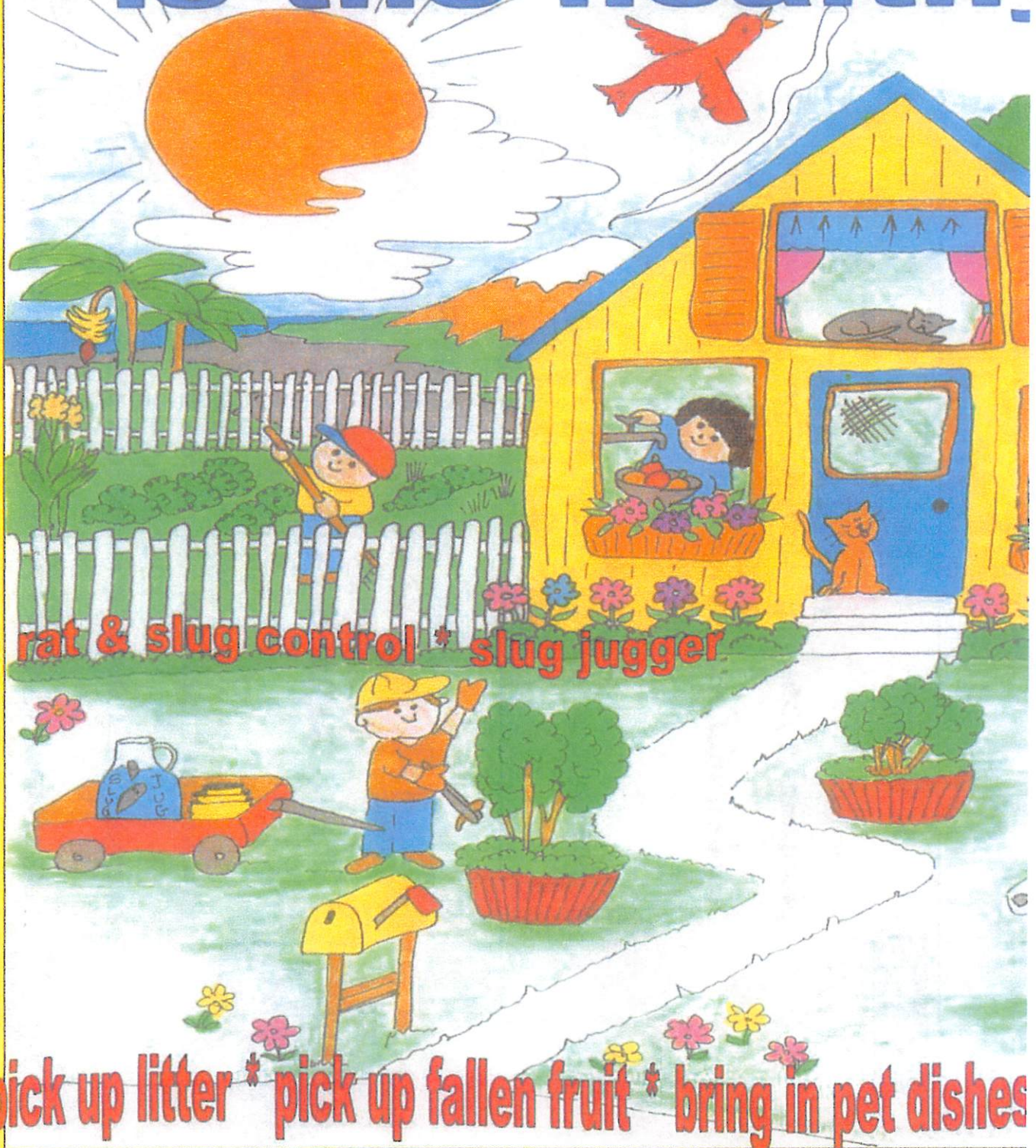
(WIGGLE ! WIGGLE !)

(repeat chorus)



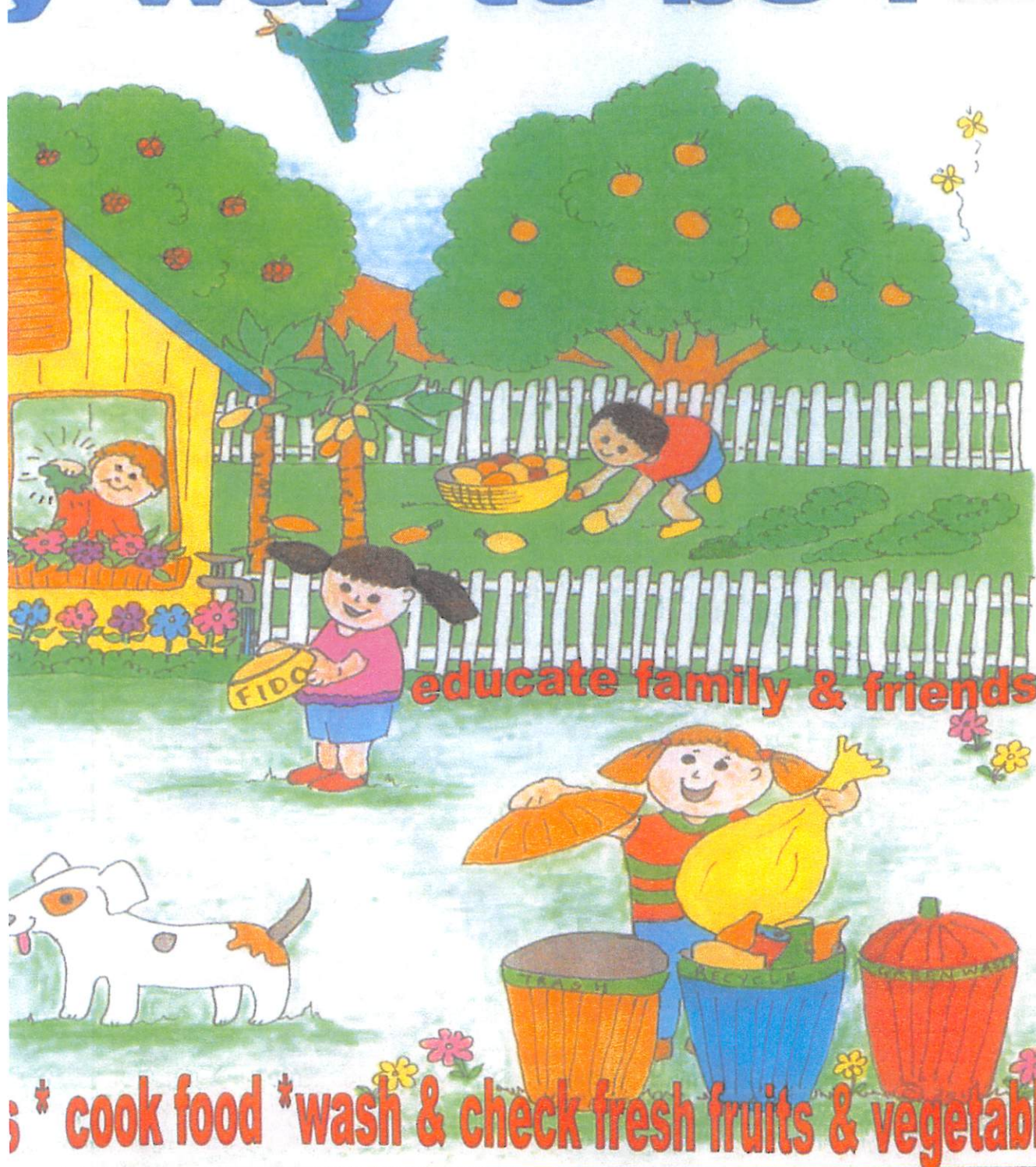
Living Rat Lur

is the healthy



ngworm FREE

y way to be !



Rat Lungworm Lifecycle

Worms in brain,
eyes and body
make us sick!



Rats eat slugs and
lungworms.

Adult lungworms
live inside rats.

Baby lungworms
exit rats in feces.

Baby lungworms
enter slugs when
slugs eat rat
feces.

Many different species
of slugs and snails
eat rat feces and carry
rat lungworm.

Lungworms
start
growing
in slugs.

Slugs & snails
on veggies and
fruit.

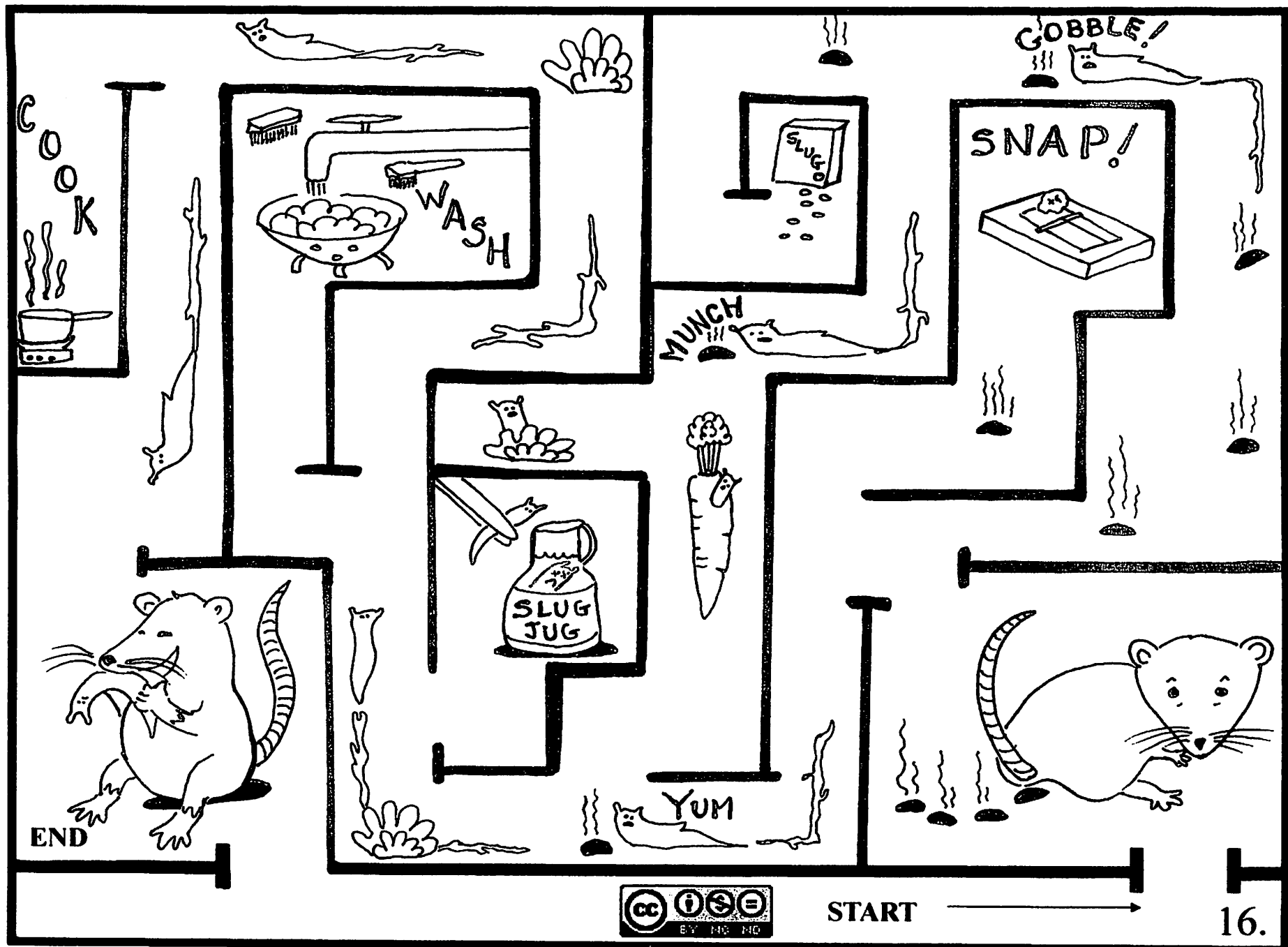
**SAFE
TO
EAT !**

Check
Clean
Cook

OR

OR

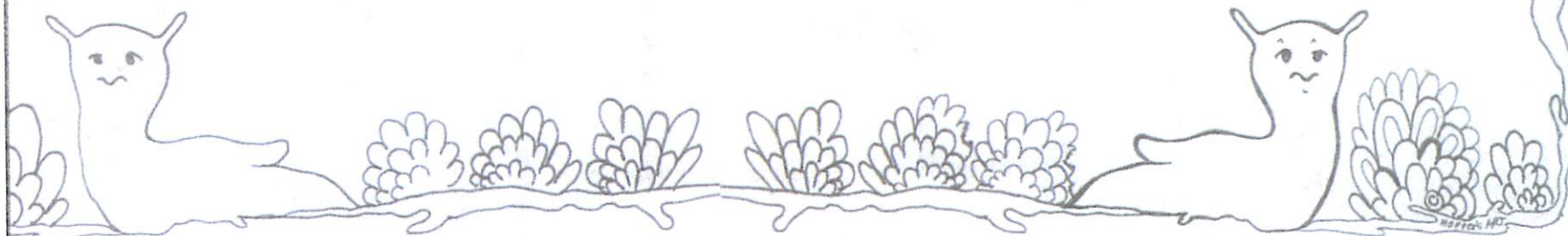




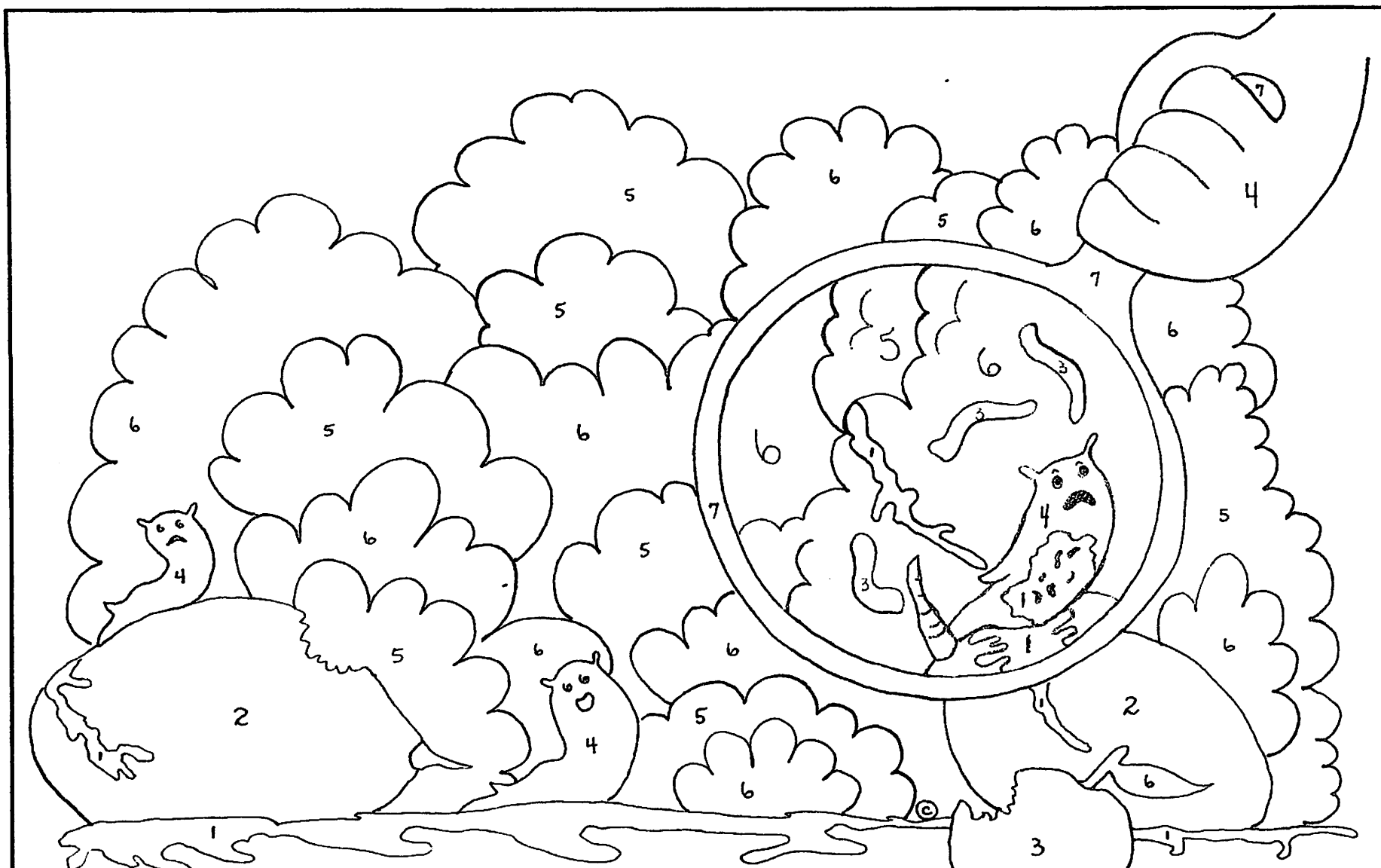
The garden habitat.

I've come to the conclusion we should inspect Lani's garden. Lani, Kaleo, and Emma love the garden. It is a *habitat* for birds, bees, and butterflies. Their garden provides the children with fresh, nutritious fruits and vegetables. Let's see if it is a *habitat* slugs and snails like. Oh no! Slimo and his friends are eating the lettuce! Let's inspect more closely and see what we find inside. Uh oh, microscopic worms! Rat lungworms inside Slimo!

Fast fact: Farmers' markets and grocery stores are great places to find fresh fruits and vegetables. Be sure to wash ALL fresh fruits and vegetables before eating them!



SC.2.5.1. Unity and Diversity: Identify distinct environments and the different kinds of organisms each environment supports

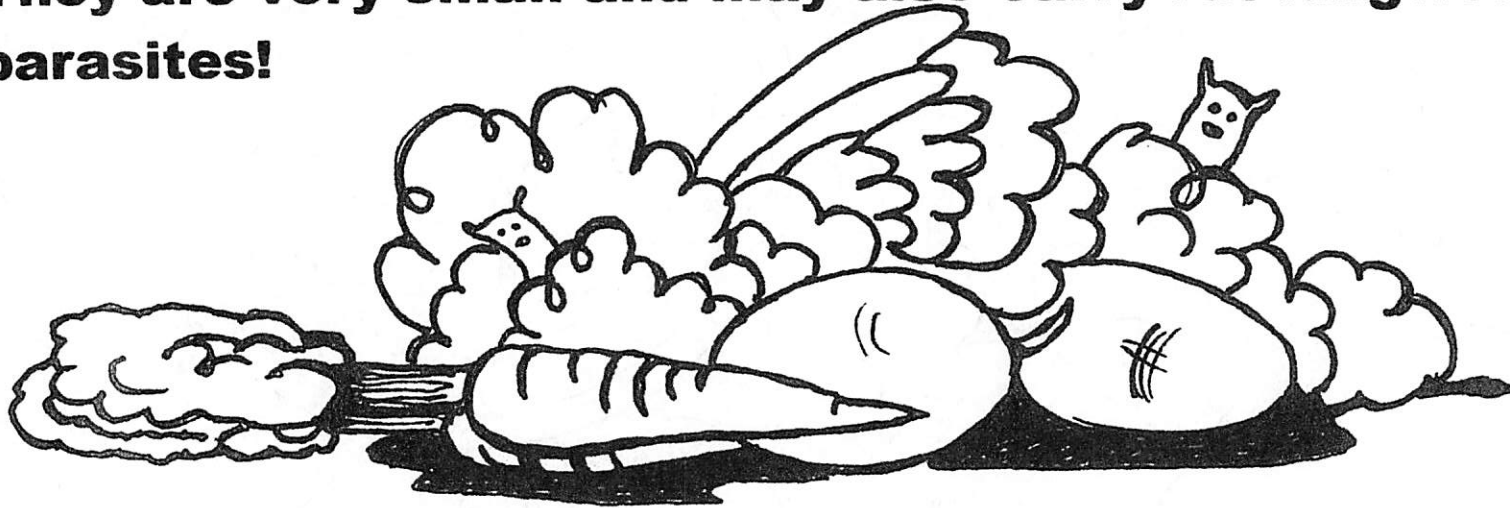


Yellow = 1 Orange = 2 Red = 3 Light Brown = 4
Light Green = 5 Green = 6 Black = 7

Who else was in the garden?

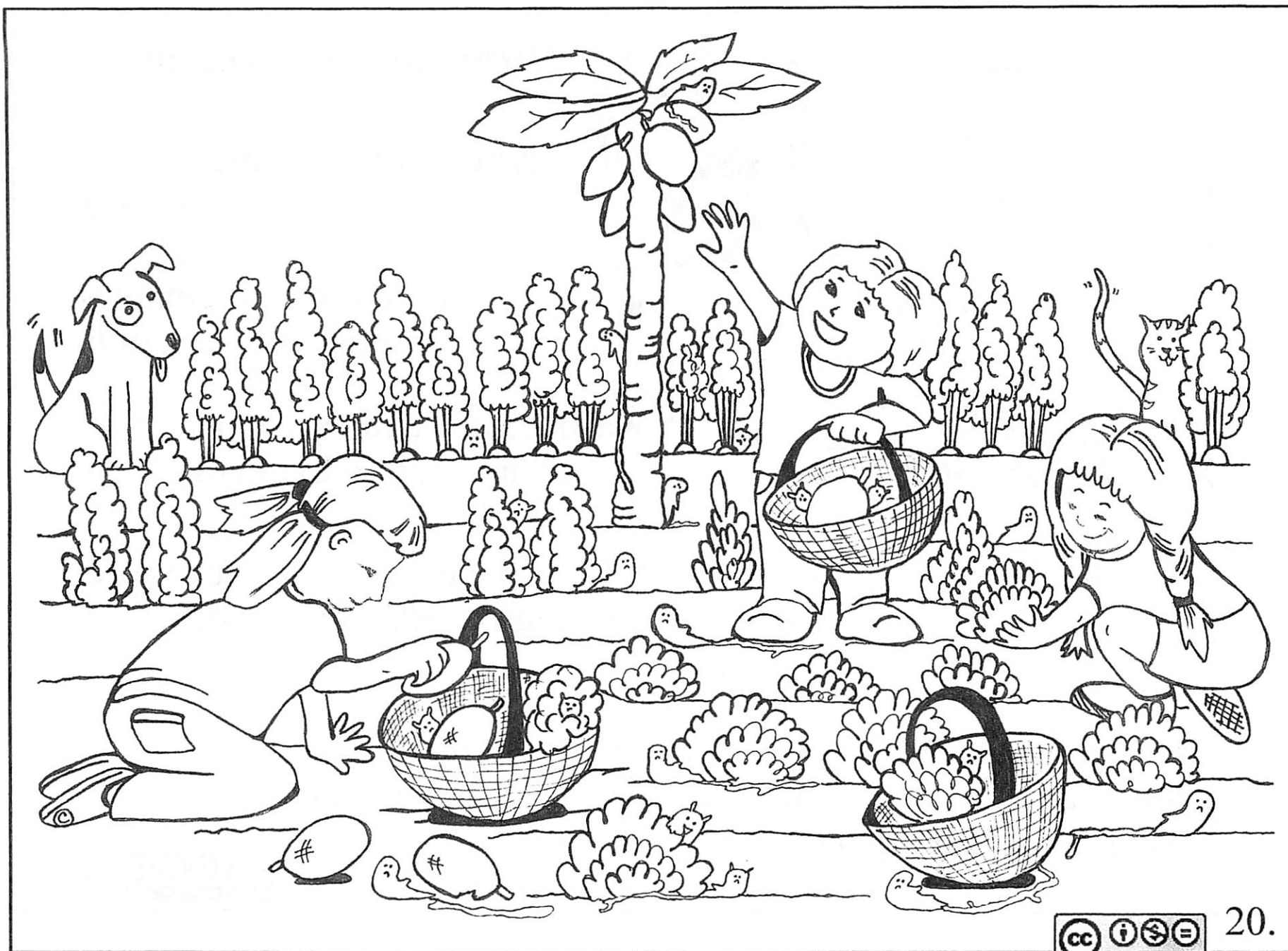
Lani, Kaleo, and Emma were harvesting vegetables for their dinner. They also picked up fallen fruit from the ground for dessert. Do you think they saw Slimo and his friends?

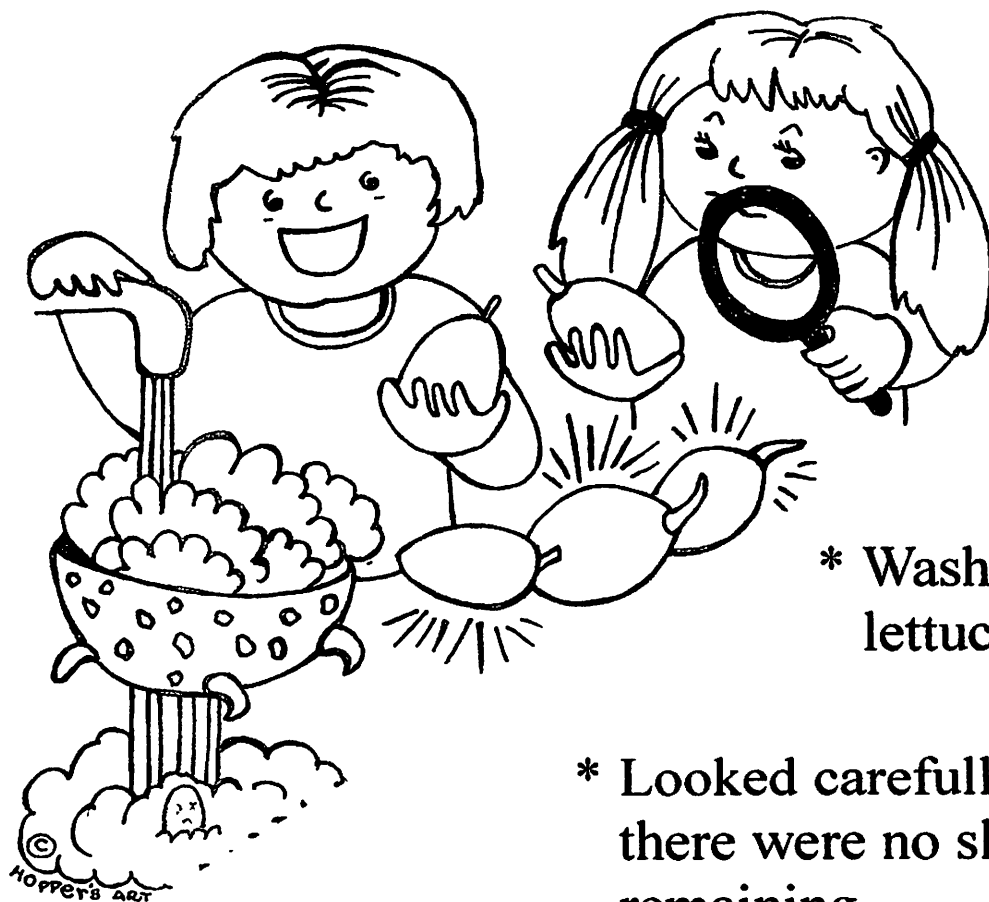
Fast fact: Baby slugs and snails hatch from eggs. They are very small and may also carry rat lungworm parasites!



**See if you can find the 20 hidden slugs
in Lani's garden**







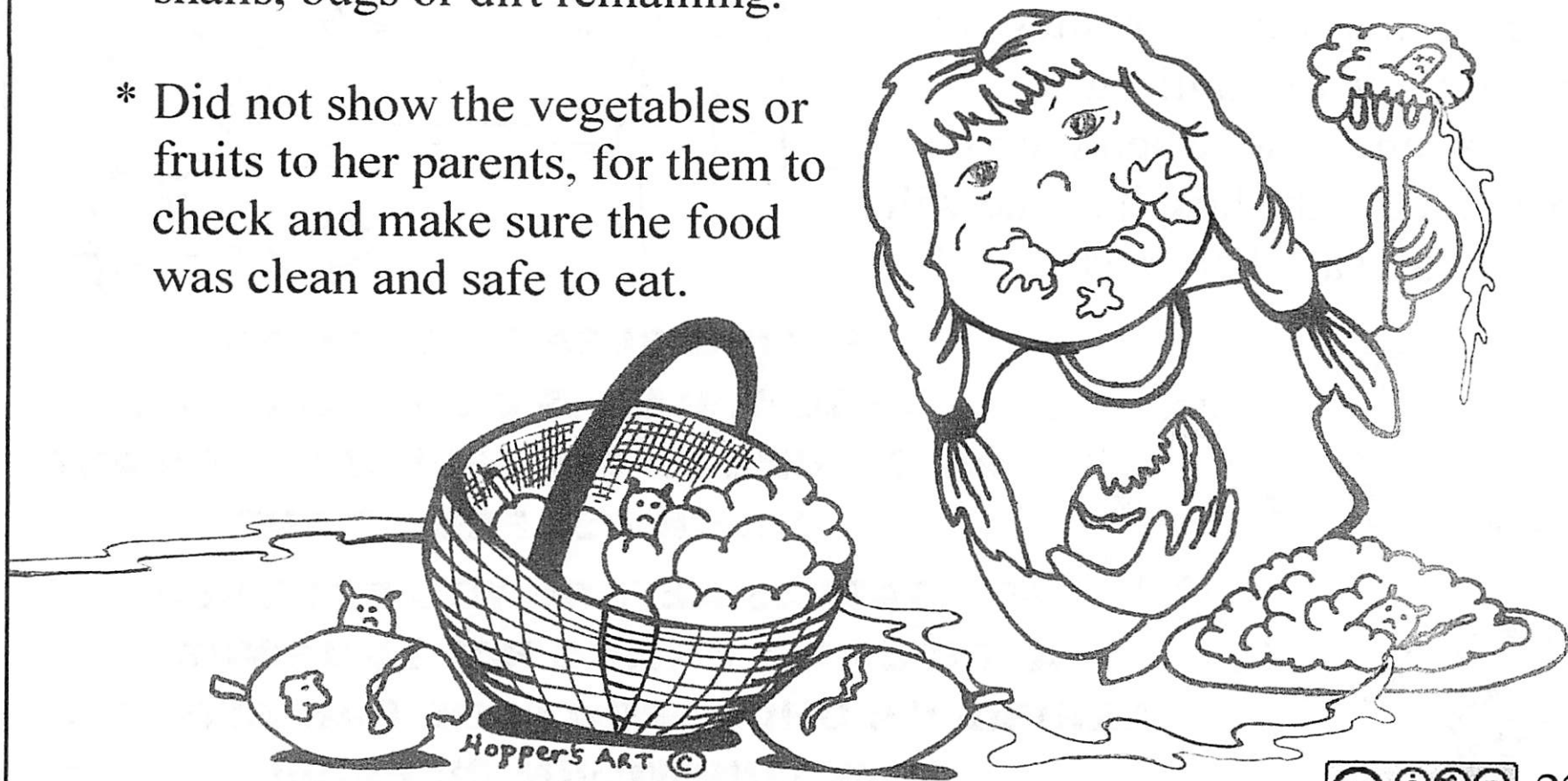
Find the difference.

Kaleo and Emma:

- * Threw away any chewed leaves or fruits and washed their vegetables and fruits very carefully.
- * Washed each and every piece of lettuce and fruit individually.
- * Looked carefully at each piece to make sure there were no slugs, snails, bugs or dirt remaining.
- * Showed the washed fruits and vegetables to their parents or to another adult to check and make sure the children had done a good job of cleaning their food.

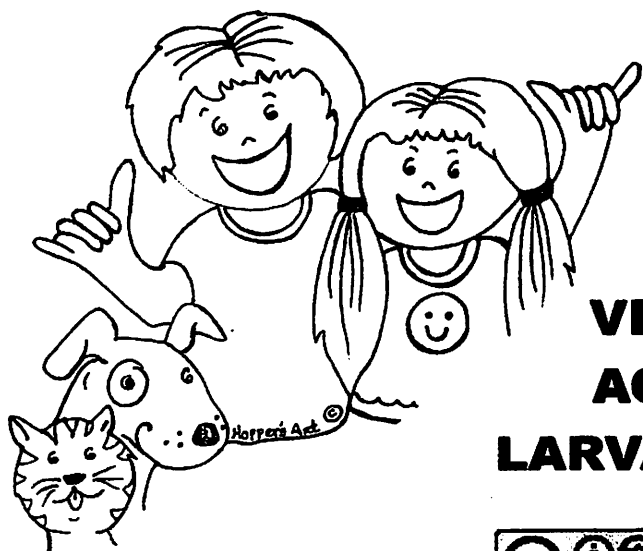
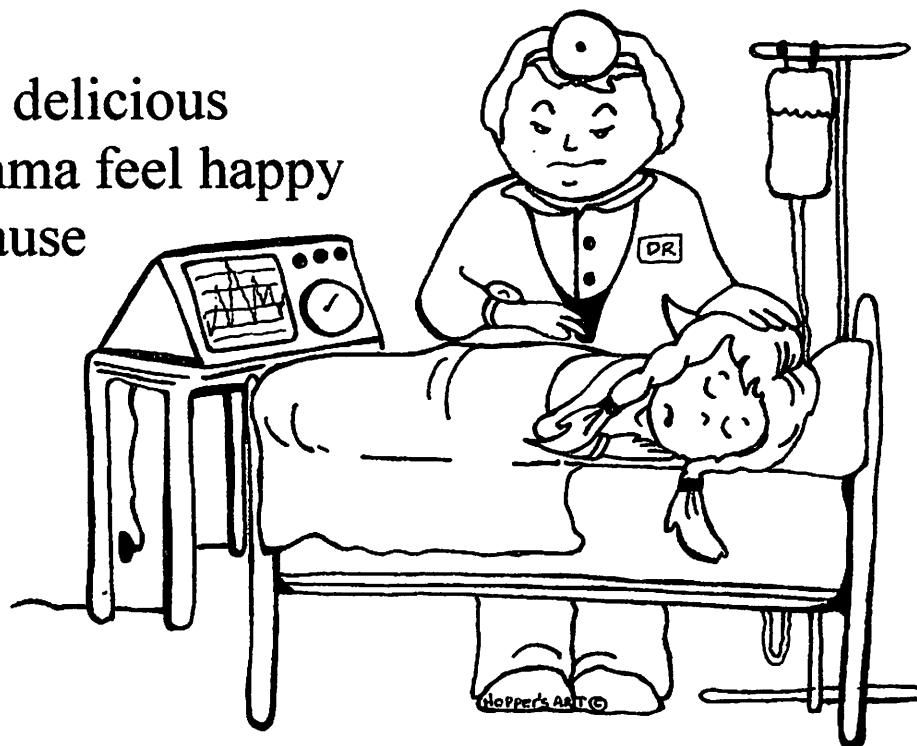
Lani:

- * Did not wash her food at all. She ate the vegetables directly from the garden and the fruit from the ground.
- * Did not look carefully to make sure there were no slugs, snails, bugs or dirt remaining.
- * Did not show the vegetables or fruits to her parents, for them to check and make sure the food was clean and safe to eat.



The mystery is solved!

A few days after eating their clean, delicious vegetables and fruit, Kaleo and Emma feel happy and healthy. Lani feels so sick because she did not wash and check her vegetables and fruits. Now, the little rat lungworm parasites are living inside of Lani! Yuck! After a long time, when Lani is able to leave the hospital, she will be sure to wash before she eats!



**EATING CLEAN FRUITS AND
VEGETABLES IS GOOD FOR YOU.
MAKE SURE TO CAREFULLY CLEAN AND
CHECK ALL FRUITS AND
VEGETABLES BEFORE YOU EAT THEM.
ACCIDENTLY EATING RAT LUNGWORM
LARVAE ON UNCOOKED FOOD CAN GIVE YOU
RAT LUNGWORM DISEASE!**

Things we can do to be healthy:

- * **Carefully clean and check fruits and vegetables before eating them.**

- * **Bring in pet food and water dishes at night.**

Animals can get rat lungworm too. A slug or snail might crawl into the dish and be eaten by your pet.

- * **Clean up litter, such as old plastic flowerpots.**

Slugs and snails like to hide inside and underneath plastic.

- * **Clean up fallen fruits and vegetables.**

Rats and slugs love to eat them.

- * **Educate family and friends:**

Teach them what you've learned and spread the news.

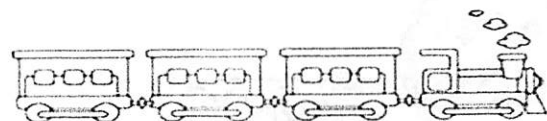
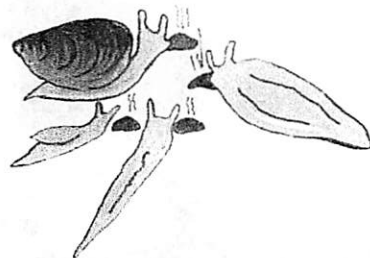
- * **Slug and rat control.**

Reducing host numbers helps our families & pets to stay healthy.

- * **Stay away.**

Don't touch slugs and snails.





I've Been Juggling All The Slu-ugs!
(to the tune of "I 've Been Working on the Railroad")

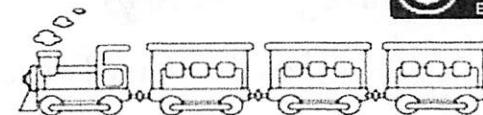
**I've been juggling all the slu - ugs,
All the live-long day!**

**I've been juggling all the slu-ugs,
Just to pass the time a-way!
Don'tcha see them in there dying,
Drowning in the brine? (*That's saltwater!*)
No rat lungworm in my gar-den
Vic-tor-y is mine!**

**Slime-o won'tcha go?
Slime-o won'tcha go?
Slime-o won'tcha go - oh, oh, oh, oh?
Slime-o won'tcha go?
Slime-o won'tcha go?
Slime-o won'tcha go away?**

**Pooper's in the garden with Slime-o,
Pooper's in the garden I know-o-o-o
Pooper's in the garden hunt'n Slime-o
Pooper'll eat Slime-o, I know!**

**Fi, fi, fiddly-i-o
Fi, fi fiddly-i-o-o-o-o
Poop-er's gon-na eat Slime-o
Munching juicy slugs: oh no!**



Glossary

Hypothesis: A good guess to explain an observation, phenomenon, or scientific problem. The guess can be tested by further investigation.

Habitat: The area or environment where an organism or ecological community normally lives or occurs.

Ecosystem: An ecological community together with its environment, functioning as a unit.

Decomposer: An organism that feeds on and breaks down dead plant or animal matter, so making organic nutrients available to the ecosystem.

Parasite: An organism that grows, feeds, and is sheltered on or in a different organism while stealing nutrients from it's host.

Extinct: No longer existing or living.

Endangered: A species present in such small numbers that it is at risk of extinction.

Life cycle: The course of developmental changes through which an organism passes from its birth to the mature state in which it is able to reproduce.

Host: The animal or plant on which or in which a parasite lives.

Feces: The solid waste that is left after food is digested. Feces form in the intestines and pass out of the body through the anus.

Native: An animal or plant that originated in a particular place or region.

Species: A closely related group of living organisms, for example: dogs, cats, rats, or banana trees.



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of Hawaii at Hilo

Daniel K. Inouye
College of Pharmacy.

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(Dr. Susan Jarvi, Kathleen
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Akio Yanagisawa and
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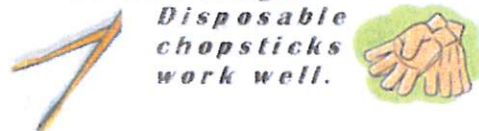
Design & Illustrations
by:

Cheryl "Hopper" Sheldon
Hopper's Art



Larvae from squashed slugs can infect other worms and slugs. Dispose of slugs properly.

1. Never pick them up with your hands, always wear gloves or use tongs.



Disposable chopsticks work well.

2. Prepare a 'slug-jug' with a 15% salt solution: $1 \frac{1}{8}$ cups sea or rock salt in $\frac{1}{2}$ gallon water



3. When you find slugs, place them in the slug-jug for at least 24 hours.

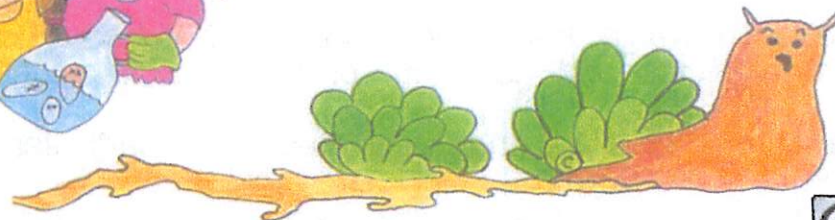
As the slugs drown larvae will escape. They can live in a wet environment for a long time, but the salt will kill them.



I'M A CERTIFIED SLUG JUGGER !

THIS CERTIFICATE IS AWARDED TO

I HAVE LEARNED ABOUT RAT LUNGWORM DISEASE AND I KNOW HOW TO BEST STAY HEALTHY.





190 Heaaula St. Haiku, HI., 96708

Attn: Budget and Finance Committee Chair
Honorable Riki Hokama
200 South High Street
Wailuku, HI., 96793

Aloha Kakou, Chair Hokama, and Honorable members of the Committee,

My name is Jenny Pell, and I am the Chairperson of the Cooperatives Committee and Board Secretary of the Hawaii Farmers Union United Haleakala Chapter. I have been a permaculture designer and agriculture consultant for 15 years, and have experience designing and implementing Food Hubs and Farmer Cooperatives.

The goal of a Food Hub is to strengthen farmer capacity to supply nearby markets by providing both physical infrastructure, such as an aggregation and distribution centers and commercial kitchens for value added products, and also farm business services such as legal, financial, and other knowledge services to our local farm business men and women.

From these two core facilities and services a range of small business and stakeholder opportunities emerge at a Food Hub: Farm Education Programs, Incubator Farms, a Permanent Farmers Market, Native Hawai'ian Agricultural and Ecological programs, Agritourism Events, a local foods store, and more.

Maui is developing a robust local food culture and strives to be more resilient in food security and food sovereignty, and less dependent on importing 95% of our food. Maui needs our small farmers to be profitable and successful. Citizens want affordable and plentiful local food. Hawai'i Farmers Union United is focused on being part of the solution by helping Maui exceed Governor Ige's call to double local food production within a few short years.

In today's regulatory environment, growers are individually challenged by food safety regulations and need access to affordable processing facilities. Maui producers need post-harvest handling facilities in every region that has significant food production.

Food safety has always been important, but today, in the wake of the Rat Lung outbreak we see just how important it is, and how vulnerable we are. Farmers on Maui are experiencing a real crisis *this week* as consumers large and small shy away from potentially unsafe fresh produce. Food Hubs will be a key part of the safe processing solution for Maui.

I would like to thank the Mayor for allocating \$12,000 toward the Food Hub. HFUU Haleakala Chapter respectfully requests that you allocate additional funding in your budget for the planning necessary to implement these important parts of our food supply. Here is an outline of what this budgetary line item will do:

Year One Operating Costs

To develop a successful Maui Food Hub program we need to:

- Conduct extensive community outreach and work with Hawai`ian Cultural Liaisons, Moku leaders, and all community stakeholders to be sure the project is inclusive and best serves the local community
- Put together a diverse Advisory Board representing key stakeholders
- Conduct a feasibility study to understand the markets the Food Hub will serve
- Determine local partners and how to work with existing programs
- Determine the best location(s)
- Research precedence and successful Food Hubs across the country and develop a complete business plan
- Create budgets for each component of the Food Hub build-out
- Prioritize project needs and develop the multi-year phase plan for the Food Hub build-out
- Identify grant and funding opportunities, hire grant writer & begin raising funds
- Determine and establish the best legal structure for the project (Cooperative, B-Corporation, Non-Profit, etc.)
- Set up accurate data and metrics of farm and related farm business information: how many farms, tonnages of produce, growth projections, client information, services to local markets and tourist markets, etc.

Testimony to Budget Committee

Maui County Council Chambers

April 18, 2017

Chair Hokama and Committee Members,

I am Stan Franco, Co-chair of the Face Maui Housing Committee. Face Maui is asking the Maui County Council to invest \$250,000 for Maui's people to hire a Housing Advocate and an Executive Assistant to complete an affordable housing plan for Maui County's people.

Why?

For the past 30 years, I have been talking about the need for affordable housing on Maui. I have asked Mayors and Major Land Owners to make land available so that we can build homes for the people of Maui, Molokai and Lanai, but this has not happened.

This past January, we invited Rick Blangiardi for KGMB/KHNL News to our Martin Luther King Day Celebration to talk about Housing Justice in Hawaii. He said and I paraphrase that the biggest issue to build affordable homes is that we do not have the political will to do so.

Yesterday, I called Peter Savio to invite him to come to Maui to speak to the Face Maui's Housing Committee on his ideas on how to address our housing crisis. He said that he has looked for a Maui project and believes that he could build up to 500 homes priced from \$250,000 to \$300,000 without a government subsidy. Ray Phillips, a Maui developer, who wants to help bring solutions to our housing crisis, wrote that we need to create and I quote "a master plan including overall goals, objectives, an overall time table and individual time lines for each objective."

In a viewpoint in the October 4, 2016 Maui News, I wrote that one of the reason for the housing crisis is competing interests among land

developers, environmentalists, and governmental officials. We must talk and work with each other and give up some of our interests for the benefit of our people. We got to change the no-can to can.

I congratulate the Maui County Council last year for its initiative called the Temporary Investigate Group and its meeting with community leaders to surface answers to Maui's housing crisis. Good ideas were surfaced and we hope in 2018 some of these ideas will become law.

Face Maui believes that this is a good start, but we need a larger effort to meet the need of homes to accommodate the increase of Maui's population over the next ten years (according to the State of Hawaii, a 25% increase) plus the pent-up demand of years of not building homes for our people.

I have often mentioned this – my 3 daughters and 4 grandsons do not live on Maui. My Easter dinner was at a restaurant with my brother and a few friends. Most of us born and raised on Maui want our children and grandchildren close to us and we feel the pain of them moving away to buy a home on the mainland or come knocking on our door to move in with their spouse and children in tow. At 73, my days on Maui is limited, but I hope you agree with me that the good life (including adequate and safe housing) our parents made for us is something we want to pass on to our future generations.

Face Maui and our 23 churches and organizations ask again for you to place into the 2018 County budget \$250,000 for a Housing Advocate, Executive Assistant and their operational expenses to create a housing plan with short term, mid-term, and long term goals and objectives so that Maui County's housing crisis will be solved. Can! Thank you.

Budget Proposal for a Housing Advocate, FY 17-18

To: The Honorable Stacy Crivello, Chair of the Maui County Council Housing, Human Services, and Transportation Committee

From: Deacon Stan Franco, Co-Chair of the Face Maui Housing Committee

I ask for Face Maui that the Maui County Council include \$250,000 in the fiscal year 2017-2018 to pay for the services of a Housing Advocate and Executive Assistant to develop over one fiscal year a housing action plan and upon approval of the Maui County Council, implement that plan over the next four years.

The justification for this proposal is:

- 1) Various community groups and individuals have recommended the idea of an Affordable Housing Administrator, Housing Czar, Housing Facilitator, or Housing Advocate to have an entity to focus entirely on making housing for our Maui County residents a reality working through all the roadblocks to building homes at the incomes earned by our people.
- 2) Our present Residential Workforce Housing Policy seems totally ineffective in building homes that fit the income range of our local workers and therefore new legislation may be required or present legislation need to be amended.
- 3) Homes for seniors, disabled persons, homeless people, veterans and other special needs housing have not been built in sufficient numbers to meet the current need and there is every indication that the future housing needs for our seniors and our homeless population will be increasing.
- 4) While the County of Maui Department of Housing and Human Concerns have jurisdiction over assuring that adequate housing units are built, the administration of this agency is burdened with seven other functions diluting the focus on affordable housing.

To the credit of the Maui County Council, the Council's Planning Committee started the dialogue about the housing crisis by creating a Temporary Investigative Group to discuss with community leaders' various options to assist in building more affordable housing. Some of those proposals were allowing Accessory Dwelling Units on smaller lots, streamlining the building permit system, allowing Tiny Homes to be built, creating pre-approved plans to save time and money and a housing advocate. These strategies are still being reviewed for future action.

On the State level, there has been much discussion at the Legislature about increasing funding for housing, but the State Legislature is down to only one bill, HB 100, with an aggregate of roughly \$100m for rental housing, infrastructure and public housing repairs. We do not know what Maui's share of this funding will be.

From this backdrop of non-focus on an issue that many have called "crisis" and inadequate State funding to meet the housing crisis, on March 15, 2015, the State Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism produced a 36-page report titled "Measuring Housing Demand in Hawaii, 2015-2025.

In the Executive summary of that report, Maui's population is predicted to grow by 25% by 2025 and forecasted that additional housing units required to handle this growth would be 13,949 or about 1,400 per year. According to the report, it does not include the already pent up housing demand. In the most current report from Carol Reimann on entitled projects such as Maui Lani, Maui Lani VMX, Kehalani, Waia'le South, Kahoma Village, Kamalani, Kamaole Point, Kaiwahine, Kenolio, Kihei High Tech Park, Kapalua Makua, Pulelehua, and Pu'ukolii, upon build out there would be added over 10,000 units to Maui's housing stock. In addition, another 5,000 units are being proposed in units close to entitlement in Wai'ale North, Wai'ale Affordable, Waikapu Town, and Wailea 670.

The job of the Housing Advocate will need to answer these questions:

1. Why the housing we have already approved is NOT being built, even though there is such a great demand?
2. How much of the fully approved 10,000 units and 5,000 units well on their way to approval will realistically be affordable to local working families or to seniors, the disabled, veterans, and homeless families?
3. Whose responsibility is to make sure that housing units, which have been approved and promised are actually delivered to those most in need?

Currently there is no way to evaluate whether the proposals already approved or to be approved by the Maui County Council will really provide sufficient housing in the price ranges our working families can afford to purchase or rent.

Therefore, FACE Maui is proposing that the Maui County Council budget \$250,000 in FY 17-18 to hire a qualified non-profit housing developer (Non-profit organizations normally are more involved in building affordable homes and have experience in tying many financial resources to build these homes) to hire a qualified Housing Advocate and an Assistant to the Housing Advocate. We believe that the Housing Advocate will be a consultant to the Maui County Council Services office and provide updates on the housing action plan to the Council and have access to County department officials for their consultation in develop the housing plan. The \$250,000 is to pay for the Housing Advocate (Project Manager) - \$130k, and Executive Assistant - \$65k and operational expenses – equipment, travel, meeting, supplies, etc. - \$55k. There is an assumption that office space will be provided by the County of Maui.

Housing Advocate

The Housing Advocate will implement all County, State, and Federal affordable housing policies including but not limited to the Residential Workforce Housing Policy and Housing Plan of the Maui County General Plan. The Housing Advocate will be non profit housing corporation with particular focus in building and maintaining affordable housing projects and will have a minimum of five years of experience of this focus. The Housing Advocate will be responsible for the implementation of the provisions of the Residential Workforce Policy and the Maui County General Plan with special emphasis on the Housing Plan goal and objectives and the Land Use goals and objectives. Based on the above requirements, the Housing Advocate will have these responsibilities and duties:

1. To keep the Mayor and the Maui County Council informed regarding affordable housing projects, land parcels for sale and/or possession by eminent domain, project proposals, federal, state and county grants, private grants, and best practices through quarterly reports to the Director of Housing and Human Concerns and Maui County Council Chair,
2. To establish and maintain a master list of those seeking to qualify for workforce housing – rental or purchase,
3. To track status of the implementation of Housing Agreements to assure the production of promised affordable housing units,
4. To establish and maintain a one stop of contact for Maui County to assure that all permits and other approval requirements for affordable housing projects can be processed in a timely manner,
5. To assist buyers of affordable homes into a homebuyers training program to prequalify them for purchases.
6. To work with lending institutions, landowners and County, State, and Federal personnel to cut red tape to help developers shorten the time required to process an application for an affordable housing project,
7. To develop strategies to acquire land to meet the goal of building homes affordable to the household income for local residents,
8. To survey existing County-owned land for the purpose of developing affordable housing projects,
9. To encourage conversion or adaptive re-use of existing buildings for affordable housing,
10. To review all County and State legislation impacting the development of affordable housing and make recommendations to the appropriate body to make changes to improve the opportunities for the construction of affordable housing.
11. To propose incentives and/or variances from Zoning, Planning and Building requirements to make affordable housing possible,
12. To coordinate simultaneous review and coordination among County departments to fast track affordable housing projects.
13. To explore fully all potential County, State, Federal funding sources to fund affordable housing developments.
14. To bring key community members together who have land, development, housing management, financing, planning, community advocates, and others to search for the answers in building communities of affordable rental and for purchase homes.
15. To garner community support through community meetings, print and social media, community associations, and the like to get “buy in” for proposed affordable housing projects and to update the community on the efforts of the Housing Advocate.

The Housing Advocate will be a non-profit entity with special focus on building and/or managing affordable housing projects with a minimum of five years of experience in the affordable housing field. The County of Maui will contract with this entity for a five-year period with on going reviews through the Director of Housing and Human Concerns to assure that the County of Maui's funds are well spent.

Aloha Budget Chair Hokama and Council Members,

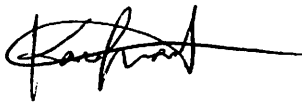
My name is Karen May Taroma and I am currently a freshman at the University of Hawaii Maui College. I am here today on behalf of Maui Economic Development Board's Women in Technology Project - their STEM education outreach program.

Maui Economic Development Board has been a great impact in my life since my high school career. I was involved in STEMworks and participated in the 2016 WIT Summer Internship, as well as the Maui High School Robotics program which were all supported by MEDB. As the robotics captain for the FIRST Robotics from 2014 to 2016, I've gained leadership skills that I now apply in my college and work career. I did not just gain personal skills but I've gained connections that led me to work at MEDB Office and become a volunteer at Maui High School.

Through your support of STEM programs and initiatives promoted through MEDB's educational programs, many students like me will be able to participate in programs like STEM Conference, STEMWorks Internship, Excite Camp, and many more. I am glad that I was able to participate in programs that MEDB supported during my high school years. Now I am working at MEDB as an IT Assistant, to help MEDB jump start the younger generation's interest in the STEM field.

Mahalo for your generous support and I hope you continue to support MEDB's Women in Technology projects!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Karen May Taroma', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Karen May Taroma

Address: 434 Maalo St. Kahului, HI 96732

Phone: (808) 276-3522

Email: xkarentaroma@gmail.com

Aloha Budget Chair Hokama and Council Members,

My name Giel Marie Tolentino and I am currently a freshman at the University of Hawaii Maui College. I am here this evening on behalf of Maui Economic Development Board's Women in Technology Project - their STEM education outreach program.

During my high school years at Maui High, I was involved with the Video Club which allowed me to participate in the 2016 WIT Summer Internship and attend the STEM Conference. The STEM Conference not only helped me connect with students from across the state, but also allowed me to take part in hands-on student sessions which were led by industry professionals across the nation.

Your support and continued funding of MEDB's Women in Technology projects will not only help expand future student's interests, but also give them an opportunity to be involved with the hands-on programs and workshops such as Introduce a Girl to Engineering Day, STEMworks Internships, Excite Camp, and more. I am happy to say that I was a part of some of these programs during my high school year, and proud to say that I am now working at MEDB as an IT Assistant to give back to the schools and help lead our future STEM industry workers.

Mahalo for your support and I hope you continue to support the MEDB's Women in Technology projects!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Giel Marie R. Tolentino". The script is cursive and fluid, with the first letters of each name being capitalized and prominent.

Giel Marie Tolentino

Address:

464 Kaa0 Circle
Kahului, HI 96732

Phone: (808) 268-2560

Email: gielmarie.tolentino@gmail.com



MAUI NUI BOTANICAL GARDENS

CONSERVING HAWAIIAN PLANTS & CULTURAL HERITAGE

April 18, 2017

Attached are some of the letters of support we received this year.

Maui Nui Botanical Gardens holds a lease with the Maui County Parks Department to manage the old zoo portion of Keōpūolani Park as a public botanical garden that promotes native Hawaiian plants.

This partnership is a good investment for the County for all the reasons you have heard. I'd like to also talk about the money you save.

We steward a County park property for about 1/3 of what it would cost the County alone. The proposed Parks Program budget is around \$7 million for 63.5 employees. This program maintains Parks turf, trees, irrigation, and buildings. Maui Nui Botanical Gardens employs 4.6 staff. If Parks were to put 4.6 staff towards maintaining the same property, it would cost around \$507,000 annually. By this logic, approving the line item grant in the OED budget for Maui Nui Botanical Gardens saves the County \$357,000*.

And, the money you invest in us is leveraged so that we provide more than just a well maintained park. Last year, our grant with the Office of Economic Development was leveraged by 153% by fundraising and from State and private grants. As you heard, we also had nearly 600 volunteers donating almost 5,000 hours.

So a small Kahului botanical garden can have widespread reach into the community, growing passions for native plants and Hawaiian culture that translate into more public support for environmental protection, farming, and Maui as a unique tourist destination. But as a strong County and private nonprofit partnership, it also maximizes your dollars in the short term.

Sincerely,

Tamara Sherrill
Executive Director

* For supporting notes, please see reverse >>>

*from page 431-433 in the Mayor's proposed budget:

The Maui County Parks and Recreation Department has a \$34 million proposed budget for FY2018. The Parks program alone, which maintains turf, trees, irrigation, and buildings has a proposed budget of \$7 million (including \$3,367,095 for personnel for 63.5 positions or \$53,000 per staff position; \$110,236 per staff member if you include equipment and supplies costs). So if Parks were to simply maintain the property using, as MNBG does, 4.6 staff, they would be paying at least \$243,000 for salaries alone – or at least \$507,000 to pay for those salaries and the supplies needed to maintain the facility. This means we are saving the County from \$93,000 (salaries only) to \$357,000 (salaries plus materials) per year.

Additional points:

- How we use the \$150,000 grant – entirely for staff positions. However, 44% of our permanent staff positions and all of our internships were funded by other sources in the first two quarters of this year, a 14% increase over last year.
- For 13 consecutive years we have held our Arbor Day 1,000 Hawaiian Tree Give-Away, and offered 10 free hands-on cultural activities demonstrating the traditional Hawaiian uses of native trees.
- We partnered for the sixth year in a row with Puanana Leo o Maui and Hawaiian Language Immersion schools to host their annual fundraiser.
- This year we are hosting a new event to bring more people to our annual plant sale. La Ulu – Breadfruit Day, in partnership with the Maui Breadfruit Company, will showcase the many uses of this beautiful and underutilized Hawaiian tree, emphasizing all the delicious recipes that can be made with a Pacific staple.
- Our Plant Collections Manager mentioned one of our volunteer projects, weeding and monitoring the last remaining wild population of our logo plant, the endangered dwarf naupaka on County land. I wanted to make you aware that this project is at the Waiehu Golf Course. We want to continue with this partnership with the County and are concerned that if site is sold the new owner may not allow access.

April 15, 2017

Budget and Finance Committee, Maui County Council
Budget Chairman, Riki Hokama
200 South High St., 8th Floor
Wailuku, HI 96793

Honorable Members of the Council:

I am writing to urge you to support Mayor Arakawa's FY2018 budget request for Maui Nui Botanical Gardens.

I am a retired Maui County Fire Fighter whom has come to appreciate the native plants of Hawaii. As our home has one of the most diverse and unique environments for plant and animal life on the planet, it also ranks at the top for extinct and endangered wildlife. It is a treasure to be able to visit some of the original plants of Hawaii in a centralized, well kept location such as the Maui Nui Botanical Gardens.

I visit the gardens at least twice a month with my 10 year old grandson whom has come to love these visits. He has drawn such a passion for native plants to the extent that he has produced a book of his favorite native plants highlighting many from the Maui Nui Gardens. You can only imagine the pride our family has for his immersed love of Hawaiian things, much of which was fostered there.

My benefit as I am sure many others in the community as well - we can visit the gardens, get ideas of what will grow well in our own central Maui gardens thus taking advantage of the research and development that Mrs Sherrill and her staff provide. For these reasons and many more I ask that you continue to support the Maui Nui Botanical Gardens.

Mahalo, James (Kimo) Kino
916 Kika St.
Wailuku, HI. 96793

April 15, 2017

Budget and Finance Committee, Maui County Council
Budget Chairman, Riki Hokama
200 South High St., 8th Floor
Wailuku, HI 96793

Honorable Members of the Council:

I am a 10 year old home school student who visits the gardens at least every other week. I am writing you to ask that you continue to give money to Maui Nui Botanical Gardens so it will stay open. I love going there because it is a good place to learn about the native Hawaiian plants. I have come to know Aunty Tamara whom is always ready to answer my questions.

I especially like going to see the different Kalo varieties, I enjoy seeing them grow, get harvested and then regenerate. My favorite varieties are the 'apuwai, uahia pele and the moana which is named after the ocean in which it grows well by. Would you please support Aunty Tamara, Uncle Whit and the Maui Nui Botanical Gardens.

Mahalo, Hamilton Kino
1347 Kilou St.
Wailuku, HI. 96793

Kihei Charter School
300 Ohukai Road
Suite #209
Kihei, Hawaii 96753
Phone: 808-875-0700

September 19th, 2016

Budget and Finance Committee
200 South High St., 8th Floor
Wailuku, HI 96793

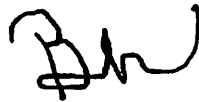
Honorable Members of the Council:

I am writing to urge you to support Mayor Arakawa's FY2017 budget request for Maui Nui Botanical Gardens. My name is Bridget Hogan and I am the 4th grade teacher at Kihei Charter School. Fourth grade is when Social Studies is about the very important topic of Hawaiian studies.

We visited the Gardens this year with a group of 17 4th grade students. The staff and volunteers at MNBG led us on a tour of the native plants as well as an activity where we learned to plant seeds and cuts for native plants. We were also able to take home hala seeds for traditional Hawaiian paintbrushes and ti leaves to make leis. It was so wonderful to have the opportunity to create a meaningful, hands on lesson at MNBG about the same topics we are learning in class. It was also great that students got to witness something as ancient as the plants that Polynesians brought over and I know this lesson will stay with them for years to come.

Being able to easily visit the Gardens is helpful to our programs because we are a school with a weekly field day and having a Garden such as this helps further the culture and ecosystem of native Hawaii. We sincerely appreciate being able to use the Gardens for making connections to Hawaiian history and culture. It is a place like no other on the island and I look forward to bringing my classes here for years to come!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Bridget Hogan', with a stylized, cursive script.

Bridget Hogan
Kihei Charter Elementary School

From: Heidi Sherman [mailto:kauaiheidi@gmail.com]
Sent: Tuesday, October 18, 2016 11:32 AM
To: Tamara Sherrill
Subject: Re: letter of support for Maui Nui Botanical Gardens

10-18-2016

Budget and Finance Committee
200 South High St., 8th Floor
Wailuku, HI 96793

Honorable Members of the Council:

I am writing to urge you to support Mayor Arakawa's FY2018 budget request for Maui Nui Botanical Gardens.

This year I chaperoned a field trip to MNBG with my son's 5th grade class from the Haleakala Waldorf School. This was an excellent opportunity for my son's class, as well as for those of us who were able to chaperone. The staff gave us a tour and let the students make cuttings and planting, sketch plants and taste different varieties of sugarcane as well as breadfruit.

The MNBG field trip offered a great hands on mix of science, gardening, local culture and art.

I would highly recommend MNBG as a field trip opportunity for other classes and schools.

Sincerely,

Heidi Sherman
parent of student at Haleakala Waldorf School

From: Ciccarelli, Katherine [mailto:kciccarelli@kiheicharter.org]
Sent: Thursday, October 13, 2016 5:56 PM
To: info@mnbg.org
Subject: Maui Nui Botanical Gardens

Thursday, October 13th, 2016

Budget and Finance Committee
200 South High St., 8th Floor
Wailuku, HI 96793

Honorable Members of the Council:

I am writing to urge you to support Mayor Arakawa's FY2018 budget request for Maui Nui Botanical Gardens. I am Katherine Ciccarelli and I teach at Kihei Charter Elementary. My school has been able to work with the Maui Nui Botanical Gardens to educate our students in a field based, authentic way about the value of the environment. I visited the gardens this year with 26 2nd and 3rd grade students and the staff and volunteers at the gardens led us on a tour of native plants and engaged the students in activities using plants that we learned about. The students loved the experience and were able to verbalize many uses for plants at the conclusion of the field trip. The tour was extremely informative about native plants and helped the students better understand plants in their own backyard. I very much appreciate the work done by Maui Nui Botanical Gardens.

Sincerely,

Katherine Ciccarelli
Kihei Charter 2nd/3rd Grade Teacher

Kahului Elementary
410 S. Hina Ave.
Kahului, HI 96732

March 23, 2017

Budget and Finance Committee
200 South High St., 8th Floor
Wailuku, HI 96793

Honorable Members of the Council:

I am writing to urge you to support Mayor Arakawa's FY2018 budget request for Maui Nui Botanical Gardens. My name is Francine Lee and I am a Kindergarten teacher at Kahului Elementary School.

This past month, we visited the Gardens this year with a group of 20 Kindergarten students. We were taught about the different varieties of kalo and sweet potato plants. We also learned how to care for these plants which are an important part of our island diet. The leaders also taught us about medicinal and other uses of native plants.

We appreciate being able to use the Gardens to learn about our native plants.

Being able to easily visit the Gardens is helpful to our programs because it enhances learning our Science Standards.

I care about the work the Gardens does because, first of all, I believe it is staffed by volunteers. It is evident that they have a passion for sharing this information with our keiki. It is important that we teach them, at an early age, how to use, value and to protect these plants.

Sincerely,



Francine Lee
Kahului Elementary School

03/02/2017

Budget and Finance Committee
200 South High St., 8th Floor
Wailuku, HI 96793

Honorable Members of the Council:

My name is Taryn Ripani and I am a special education teacher at Kahului Elementary School. I am writing to urge you to support Mayor Arakawa's FY2018 budget request for Maui Nui Botanical Gardens.

We visited the Gardens this year with a group of about 40 students. The staff and volunteers at MNBG led us in a tour of native and introduced plants; as well as facilitated different plant based educational activities. Our students learned about the important role different types of plants played in ancient Hawaii, such as hau, which was used to make rope to lash housing and canoes together and kalo which served and still serves as a staple in Hawaiian diet. Our students learned about plants used to make soap and seeds used as paint brushes. The experience allowed for the children to make real world connections and helped them to understand how people lived then, compared to now. They learned about sustainability and how to plant their own food. Most importantly, the students learned about resourcefulness and adaptability.

We appreciate being able to easily visit the Gardens. It is helpful to our programs because it is a great resource to teach the younger generations, the future of our society, how to be resourceful, adaptable, and sustainable.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Taryn Ripani'.

Taryn Ripani
Kahului School

Kahului Elementary
410 S. Hina Ave.
Kahului, HI 96732
808-873-3055

April 12, 2017

Budget and Finance Committee
200 South High St., 8th Floor
Wailuku, HI 96793

Honorable Members of the Council:

I am writing to urge you to support Mayor Arakawa's FY2018 budget request for Maui Nui Botanical Gardens. Our names are Carol Sakai and Caroldyne Sniffen. We are kindergarten co-teachers at Kahului Elementary School.

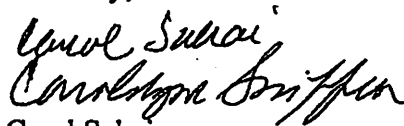
We visited the Gardens this year with a group of 40 students. The staff and volunteers at MNBG led us in a tour of native plants at the Maui Nui Botanical Garden. The students participated in planting sweet potato plants, washing their hands with the Anapanapa leaves, painting with the Lauhala nuts and learning about the various uses of native plants.

We appreciate being able to use the Gardens for a hands-on learning experience that builds science concepts and language development.

Being able to easily visit the Gardens is helpful to our programs because it is a learning environment that is close to our school and is affordable for our students to go there. It gives our students an opportunity to learn outside of the classroom about how plants are grown and used. It helps them to know that we can use natural resources in various ways.

I care about the work the Gardens does because it helps our students to learn and be aware of our natural environment in Hawaii.

Sincerely,

Handwritten signatures of Carol Sakai and Caroldyne Sniffen in cursive script.

Carol Sakai
Caroldyne Sniffen
Kahului Elementary School

Whit Germano

From: Diane Carr [aloha3127@gmail.com]
Sent: Tuesday, April 11, 2017 7:42 PM
To: bf.committee@mauicounty.us
Subject: FY2018 Budget

Honorable members of the council,

Please support Mayor Arakawa's FY2018 budget request for Maui Nui Botanical Garden. I am a board member and a weekly volunteer . One of the many events at the garden is Arbor Day, a celebration of Hawaiian culture and plants. Last Arbor Day I volunteered to work the entrance gate handing out information regarding the 1,000 plus plant give away. A young boy and his family entered and as his mom reached for the info sheet he grabbed her hand and impatiently tugged while saying, "I know all about this place I come here with my school. I can show you everything like the tree that you make whistles from and sugar cane that comes in colors". Off he went heading for the Kamani tree.

I hope you will support the budget for the Garden that works hard to ensure valuable Hawaiian plant and cultural resources are so important to preserve for the future generations.

Sincerely ,
Diane Carr

aloha3127@gmail.com

April 5, 2017

Budget and Finance Committee, Maui County Council
Budget Chairman, Riki Hokama
200 South High St., 8th Floor
Wailuku, HI 96793

Honorable Members of the Council:

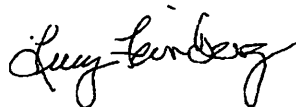
I am writing to urge you to support Mayor Arakawa's FY2018 budget request for Maui Nui Botanical Gardens.

The MNBG is a unique resource in Maui County. They have educated thousands of school children and adults over the years; at least 1500 school children per year, on the importance of our aina and our original plant life, much of which is under threat of extinction. In addition, it gives residents and visitors a real appreciation of the plants of Maui nui and the importance of protecting them. They have a real caring for the culture and have infused that appreciation in all of their work.

This organization has used County funds as leverage to obtain other funding which is the best use of the dollars the County provides.

588 volunteers contributed 4,807 hours of service to the Garden last year and each of the volunteers has vastly increased their knowledge of Hawaiian culture and the plant life which supports the culture.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Lucy Feinberg', with a stylized, cursive script.

Lucy Feinberg
129 Hoowaiwai Loop #2104
Wailuku, HI 96793

Whit Germano

From: Rob Weltman [rweltman@twc.com]
Sent: Wednesday, April 05, 2017 2:57 PM
To: bf.committee@mauicounty.us
Cc: info@mnbg.org
Subject: Budget funding for Maui Nui Botanical Garden

Budget and Finance Committee, Maui County Council Budget Chairman, Riki Hokama
200 South High St., 8th Floor
Wailuku, HI 96793

I am writing to urge support for the mayor's proposed budget allocation for Maui Nui Botanical Garden (MNBG) the coming year. MNBG is a wonderful treasure in itself - a serene place to enjoy and learn about Hawaii's native plant life - but it also offers a very appropriate environment for many related natural and cultural events. Funding MNBG means it will continue to be accessible for a broad swath of residents and visitors, and to offer opportunities for volunteering, education, and community-building.

Aloha,
Rob Weltman
robw@worldspot.com
188 Walua Place
Kihei, HI 96753

Eleanor Himes, LCSW

(April 05, 2017)

Budget and Finance Committee, Maui County Council
Budget Chairman, Riki Hokama
200 South High St., 8th Floor
Wailuku, HI 96793

Honorable Members of the Council:

I am writing to urge you to support Mayor Arakawa's FY2018 budget request for Maui Nui Botanical Gardens.

I appreciate being able to use the Gardens as one of the few if not the only private yet public place that one can visit in the central area. It is so beautiful and quiet. It is comforting to know that someone is diligent about propagating local plants and culture. _____

I care about the work the Gardens does because many people are served by being able to have easy access to a garden with local plants for education and simply to enjoy. This is the only public garden of it's kind that I am aware of on Maui. It is a rare gem for the public to enjoy. It is small private fenced and therefore more easy to protect.

MNBG is the best place on Maui for visitors and residents to learn the cultural history of Maui County's unique plants as well as enjoy the special ambiance that is unique to this garden.

MNBG provides a place for students of botany and Hawaiian culture to learn plant identification and experiment with traditional uses.

This organization has consistently more than doubled the funding provided by the County.

MNBG is a centrally located field trip site for more than 1,500 Maui students each year.

588 volunteers contributed 4,807 hours of service to the Garden last year.

PLEASE fund MNBG

Sincerely,

Eleanor Himes
Frequent visitor to the garden, member and advocate for this multipurpose outdoor space.
1356 Kilou St
Wailuku, HI 96793

April 5, 2017

Budget and Finance Committee, Maui County Council
Budget Chairman, Riki Hokama
200 South High St., 8th Floor
Wailuku, HI 96793

Honorable Members of the Council:

I am writing to urge you to support Mayor Arakawa's FY2018 budget request for Maui Nui Botanical Gardens.

As a Hawaiian ethnobotany teacher at U.H. Maui Collage, I rely on the many botanical and cultural resources established at Maui Nui Botanical Gardens. Without these resources, I would not be able to deliver the high standard education that we provide. In addition to these resources, the botanical gardens offer my students opportunities for employment training in the form of student service learning and internships. Every student has praised their experience at the botanical gardens.

MNBG is the best place on Maui for visitors and residents to learn the cultural history of Maui County's unique plants.

MNBG provides a place for students of botany and Hawaiian culture to learn plant identification and experiment with traditional uses.

This organization has consistently more than doubled the funding provided by the County.

MNBG is a centrally located field trip site for more than 1,500 Maui students each year.

588 volunteers contributed 4,807 hours of service to the Garden last year.

Sincerely,

Lisa Schattenburg-Raymond
Lecturer, U.H. Maui College
740 Copp Road
Kula HI 96790

Whit Germano

From: Philip Thomas [pt@philipt.com]
Sent: Wednesday, April 05, 2017 3:33 AM
To: Mayors.Office@co.maui.hi.us; bf.committee@mauicounty.us
Cc: Tamara Sherrill; Irene Newhouse
Subject: in support of Maui Nui Botanical Garden

Mayor Arakawa & Maui County Budget & Finance Committee,

I am writing in support of your funding for the Maui Nui Botanical Garden.

I was a Maui resident for over 20 years, and still own property there (to which I hope to return someday).

The Maui Nui Botanical Garden is a wonderful resource for residents of and visitors to Maui. It is an excellent educational and cultural resource, and is centrally located and easily accessible to all. It is a shining example of what community and county support can do to provide a much-needed public resource.

I applaud your past financial support of the garden, and encourage you to continue to include Maui Nui Botanical Garden in your upcoming budget.

Thank you!

Aloha,
Philip Thomas
PT@PhilipT.com

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Philip A. Thomas - pt@philipt.com - <http://www.philipt.com>
P.O. Box 1272, Carrboro, NC 27510 USA

...trying to make the web a better place, one URL at a time...

- - - - -

Whit Germano

From: Amy Tamura Muramatsu [amy.muramatsu5@gmail.com]
Sent: Tuesday, April 04, 2017 9:20 PM
To: info@mnbg.org
Subject: Fwd: Supporting Maui Nui Botanical Gardens

Begin forwarded message:

From: Amy Tamura Muramatsu <amy@muramatsu.com>
Subject: Supporting Maui Nui Botanical Gardens
Date: April 4, 2017 at 9:19:41 PM HST
To: bf.committee@mauicounty.us

To:
Budget Chairman, Riki Hokama
Budget and Finance Committee, Maui County Council
200 South High St., 8th Floor
Wailuku, HI 96793

Re: Maui Nui Botanical Gardens

Honorable Members of the Council:

I am writing to urge you to support Mayor Arakawa's FY2018 budget request for Maui Nui Botanical Gardens.

MNBG is the best place on Maui for visitors and residents to learn the cultural history of Maui County's unique plants.

Also, MNBG provides a place for students of botany and Hawaiian culture to learn plant identification and experiment with traditional uses.

This organization has consistently more than doubled the funding provided by the County.

Sincerely,
Amy Tamura Muramatsu
84 Ala Apapa Place
Pukalani, HI 96768

Whit Germano

From: Martha Martin [mauimarta@gmail.com]
Sent: Tuesday, April 04, 2017 4:45 PM
To: bf.committee@mauicounty.us
Subject: Funding Maui Nui Botanical Gardens

A Paia resident, Rene Sylva, started a public garden to preserve naive Hawaiian coastal plants. Today this garden and its plants are part of what makes Maui such a special place to live. MNBG displays, grows and distributes plants, and hosts public events about Hawaiian culture. No other Hawaiian island has one like it.

Funding from the County of Maui helps keep the garden open.
Please continue supporting Maui Nui Botanical Gardens.

Mahalo,

Martha E. Martin

POB 790300

Paia, HI 96779. Telephone 579-9019

Sent from my iPad

April 4, 2017

Budget and Finance Committee, Maui County Council
Budget Chairman, Riki Hokama
200 South High St., 8th Floor
Wailuku, HI 96793

Honorable Members of the Council:

I am writing to urge your in support of Mayor Arakawa's FY2018 budget request for Maui Nui Botanical Gardens. Although I live on the Big Island, I visit the Maui Nui Botanical Garden (MNBG) almost every time I am on your isle. I received a State Forest Stewardship Grant almost 10 years ago to restore the native forest here in Volcano on a 7 acre parcel, and I have kept alien invasive plant species down to well less than 5% of the vegetation cover. I also "outplant" rare species that naturally occur in this area, to fill in the "light gaps" where the weeds were. I have had several interested groups of restoration enthusiasts here to see what I have done. They all need sources of propagative material of native plants to restore their native forests, and I know you have residents on Maui with the same needs and desires to restore native forest. It is an increasingly popular movement.

On Maui, MNBG provides such propagative material to the public (via plant sales) for 3 different islands, to complete the restoration process by adding back both the common and rare native species. I know from experience that some can be quite hard to grow. However, your MNBG staff are experts at that and they are an invaluable resource found nowhere else in Maui Nui while working just for Maui Nui.

There are several other services MNBG provides to residents of Maui that I am sure others will bring up in letters of support. I might add that the staff is quite good at attracting other funds by leveraging your ongoing support with matching dollars and grants to support their work.

Lastly, you need only to show up on a volunteer work day to see how much time volunteers put into maintaining the Garden and how enthusiastic they all are. Maui Nui Botanical Garden is indeed a community resource in every sense of the phrase.

Mahalo nui for your MNBG support over the years, so let's keep that up!

Patrick Conant
P.O. Box 1172
Volcano, HI 96785



4 April 2017

Budget and Finance Committee, Maui County Council
Budget Chairman, Riki Hokama
200 South High St., 8th Floor
Wailuku, HI 96793

Honorable Members of the Council:

I am writing to urge you to support Mayor Arakawa's FY2018 budget request for Maui Nui Botanical Gardens.

Myself, my friends and others truly appreciate being able to use the Gardens to/for volunteering there each week. Their volunteer program offers the chance to learn about Hawaiian culture via hands on experience with the plant life there. In addition to this, being able to be hands-on in the dirt gives us a calming, relaxing healing vibe to carry us through the week. This is a unique place here on Maui that allows those of us who might not have a garden or yard to be in nature.

I care about the work the Gardens does because they focus on the importance of Hawaiian culture in many aspects. As a non-profit the MNBG can offer learning and experience in ways not available otherwise. To be there, to experience the totality of the environment is unique and priceless.

Sincerely,

Linda Tesar-Amimoto MA, MFT, CGP
Group Therapy Maui
Awareness Therapy Maui
808 269-3948



12 April 2017

Aloha mai kakou;

Board of Directors

Anna Palomino,
President

Michelle Cockett, VP

Deborah Ward, Secretary

Juenlee Brown, Treasurer

Project Coordinator

Penny Levin

E kūpaku ka 'āina – the Hawai'i Land Restoration Institute (EKKA) is a registered 501(c)(3) nonprofit whose mission is *bringing severely degraded lands back to places of ecological health and abundance*. We are dedicated to fostering an economy of abundance through the critical business of land restoration and the art of traditional cultural practice. We do so by assisting agencies, organizations, landowners and communities to develop practical skills and affordable strategies for degraded lands and native ecosystems recovery and agriculture fit to the land...because if the 'āina is not well, neither are we.

As a partner and supporter of Maui Nui Botanical Gardens, EKKA would like to express its wholehearted support for MNBG's request for funding to the County of Maui.

Maui Nui Botanical Gardens currently maintains excellent collections of traditional Hawaiian food crops for kalo and mai'a, along with good collections of 'awa, kō and 'uala, as well as 'ulu, kukui, wauke, cordage and dye plants, and a number of Maui Nui's native and endangered species. This exceptional gathering of important heritage plants is used daily by teachers, schools, residents and visitors alike. Only last week, Kamehameha Schools teachers learned how the Gardens and the Hawaiian plant collections could be a resource for developing curriculum and student exploration. Cultural practitioners and hālau are regularly able to gather resource materials from the Gardens to perpetuate their own craft.

The Gardens are a desirable location for cultural events, such as Ho'omau, Arbor Day, 'ohana gatherings, organizational fundraisers and business meetings. Last year, they hosted participants from the Pacific and Hawaii during a Conservation Campus on Indigenous Crop Biodiversity and Food Security, part of the Indigenous Crop Biodiversity Festival (Aug 24-30, 2016) which led up to the IUCN World Conservation Congress.

EKKA continues to encourage collaboration and sponsorship of MNBG's work aimed at revitalizing these living collections and increasing community and visitor exposure to them.

Please join me in supporting Maui Nui Botanical Gardens so that this jewel of a resource within Central Maui, and so close to many of our visitor access points, can continue to be enjoyed in more ways, by more people, in the future.

Best regards,

Penny Levin
Project Coordinator

Whit Germano

From: Marie Bruegmann [mariebruegmann@gmail.com]
Sent: Wednesday, April 05, 2017 4:07 AM
To: bf.committee@mauicounty.us
Cc: info@mnbg.org
Subject: Maui County support for Maui Nui Botanical Gardens

Dear Maui County Council,

As a retired employee of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service who served as the plant recovery coordinator for 22 years, I would like to take this opportunity to emphasize the importance of continued Maui County support for the Maui Nui Botanical Gardens (Garden). The Garden plays a vital role in the conservation of rare and endangered plant species for Maui County through public education, off-site propagation of these species, and reintroduction of these species back into native habitat.

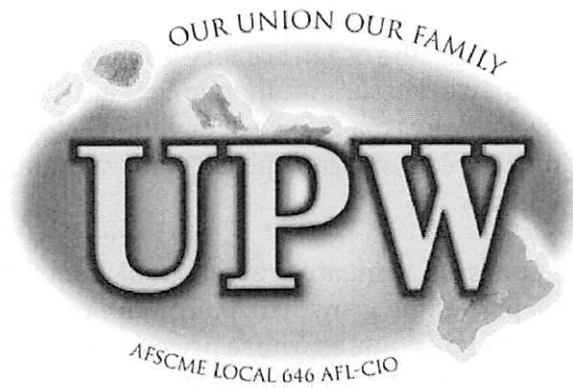
The Garden is a fundamental partner in Hawaii's Plant Extinction Prevention Program (PEPP), which protects rare Hawaiian plants with fewer than 50 individuals remaining in the wild. The Garden plays an important role in PEPP, an informal partnership that formed a Maui Nui portion of the program in 2006. We would not have been able to make the Maui Nui PEPP happen without the Garden's coordination of meetings with the other members to compile data on rare Maui Nui species. The Garden also assists the program through the propagation of those PEP species found at lower elevations similar to that of the Garden. Most importantly, the Garden has played a lead role in the propagation of perhaps the rarest Hawaiian plant, kanaloa (*Kanaloa kahoolaweensis*), currently known from only one very unhealthy plant on Kahoolawe. The Garden is working with several partners to find a successful way to propagate this plant, using creative solutions for this species that is very difficult to propagate, to save this species from extinction. This and other plants grown at the Garden will be used for long-term genetic storage as well as to provide material for long-term recovery through reintroduction into protected habitats.

The Garden's ongoing support from the Maui County Council is critical to its ability to continue assisting in this Plant Extinction Prevention program. We hope you will consider this when you make your budget decisions.

Sincerely,

Marie M. Bruegmann

mariebruegmann@gmail.com, 808-354-3863



OFFICE OF THE
COUNTY CLERK

2017 APR 18 AM 9:09

RECEIVED

Council of the County of Maui
Council Chamber, 8th Floor
200 South High St.
Wailuku, HI. 96793

Honorable Mike White, Council Chair
Members of the Maui County Council

DATE OF HEARING: April 18, 2017
TIME OF HEARING: 6:00 p.m.
Council Chamber, 8th Floor
200 South High Street
Wailuku, HI.

TESTIMONY ON WAIIEHU MUNICIPAL GOLF COURSE

By DAYTON M. NAKANELUA,
State Director of the United Public Workers,
AFSCME Local 646, AFL-CIO ("UPW")

My name is Dayton M. Nakanelua, State Director of the United Public Workers, AFSCME, Local 646, and AFL-CIO (UPW). The UPW is the exclusive bargaining representative for approximately 14,000 public employees, which include blue collar, non-supervisory employees in Bargaining Unit 01 and institutional, health and correctional employees in Bargaining Unit 10, in the State of Hawaii and various counties. The UPW also represents about 1,500 members of the private sector.

This testimony refers to the Waiehu Municipal Golf Course that is an integral part of the 2018 Maui County Operating Budget being heard on April 18, 2017. We appreciate the efforts of the Maui County Council to continue the operations and services of this unique golf course for all the golf enthusiast of Maui including the young and retired players, novices and experts.

According to a review, one satisfied golfer commented, "This is the best golf course on Maui for location, weather and value...the ocean scenery is fantastic ...the long time course staff is friendly as is the restaurant workers..." Another golfer said, "Staff was friendly and helpful. This is a gem of a course. Fairways to green well maintained." And a third golfer said, "It is a municipal course so don't expect landscape perfect fairways and greens. They honestly do a good job for the price you pay".

Waiehu Municipal Golf Course is a valuable recreational asset that brings the community together. It is an historic part of the growth of Maui. Maui residents would not be able to afford playing in the private golf courses whose prices range up to \$179 and as high as \$259. Locals have been priced out from these visitor-oriented golf courses. They need Waiehu.

The UPW strongly opposes the closing of Waiehu Municipal Golf Course.


Thank you for the opportunity to submit this testimony.

Written Testimony

Joshua Corpuz <jcorpuz2@hawaii.edu>

Tue 4/18/2017 3:52 PM

To: County Clerk <County.Clerk@mauicounty.us>;

 1 attachments (1 MB)

WastewaterMauiCountyTestimony.docx;

Aloha,

I am a student at UH Maui College. I took an internship class with Ms. Juli Patao. I did an internship with Maui County Wastewater Department. I was told to make a statement concerning my experiences. I believe what I have accomplished through this internship was a great experience.

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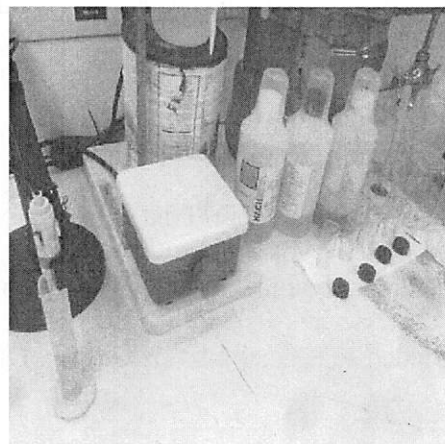
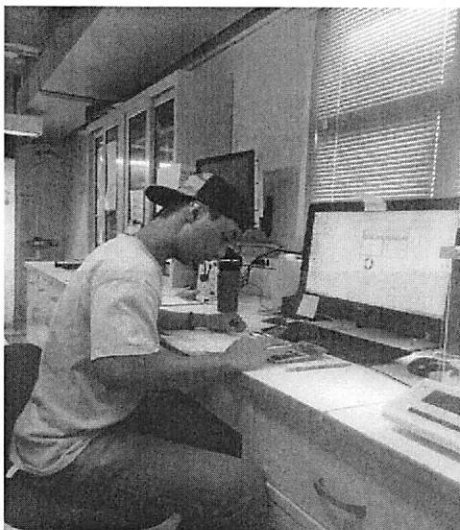
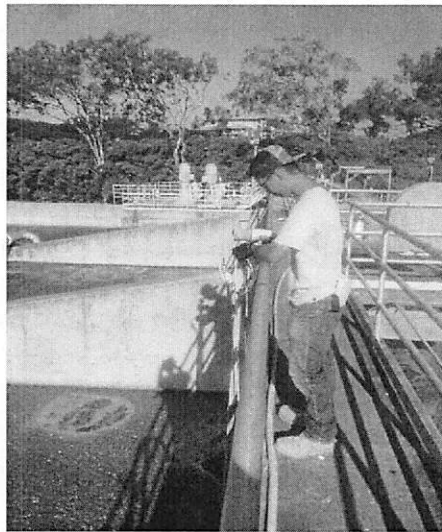
OFFICE OF THE
COUNTY CLERK

Wastewater Maui County Internship Testimony

Aloha Council Members,

I am Joshua Corpuz, a student at the University of Hawai'i Maui College. I'm majoring in the Sustainable Construction Technology Program and I am soon hoping to graduate with my degree this May. The past couple of years have prepared me for a better future. I took upon an internship class this semester with Ms. Juli Patao. While I am taking her class, I learned many things about life that I didn't know before. She pushed me to explore different opportunities that I have not known about. One of the opportunities I took upon was interning for Maui County as a Wastewater Operator helper. I learned many things while interning as a Wastewater Operator. The Wastewater department is a very important department in Maui County and in the aspect of Sustainability. Some of the things I learned while interning was; how to operate some of the pumps, how to read meters, how to take and test samples, how to record data on specific sheets, how to input data into the computer and do the mathematics required in the job. I also learned how to work and do each station such as, working in the pump rooms, learning the operations in the plant, working in the dewatering station and working in the lab. The station I worked in the most was the lab. Some duties of the lab were taking samples, testing samples, recording data, reading meters and wastewater mathematics. Working in the lab was a challenge when I first started but week after week I got better. My mentors were confident with me doing the work and as time went by they let me run the lab, but with their supervision. That confidence they had in me made me feel confident while I did the work needed for the day. I had no knowledge in wastewater operations before I started the internship but as time went by I started getting better at the work I needed to accomplish for the day. One day while I was working, my mentor saw

how good I was progressing while doing the job and told the Supervisor, "We can hire him in the future." My supervisor also told me to use him as a reference if I were to pursue a career in Maui County. When I heard, them say those things, that made me realize another type of opportunity that I could do in the future. The internship I took upon was a great learning experience for me and I learned a lot interning for Maui County. This has impacted my future greatly because it has let me see an opportunity that I have not once thought of before. If an opening comes up in the future or any similar department, I know I can confidently say I did the work that was expected and gained experience through my internship.



Diana Rodriguez

760-877 4913

Hola mi nombre es Diana I'm american citizen, but I born and
Wahuku live in Colombia.

Vivo en Lahaina desde I live in Wahuku
Kahului.

Y estoy aqui para testificar a favor de MEO/Enlace Hispano

I am here to testify a favor to ~~to~~ Maui Economic Opportunities

Desde que vivo aquí en Maui, MEO/ENLACE ha (describa los servicios que MEO/Enlace le ha prestado:

This institution has
MEO ~~has~~ helped me in my job search, also they
have helped me translating documents, as my

bachelor's and master diploma. They also
gave me guidance to apply for a health ~~or~~
insurance.

Si no hubiera MEO/Enlace (clase de dificultades a las que usted o su familia se verían expuestos):

I think it is the only organization which helps

latinos in Maui, and would be so difficult to me to
establish in Hawaii without the support of an
organization that gives you guidance and help you
to find a good job.

Por lo anterior les ruego (su petición por MEO/Enlace)

I ask our president to support this kind of
institutions that helps ~~people like me and there~~
thousand of people including me. minorities.